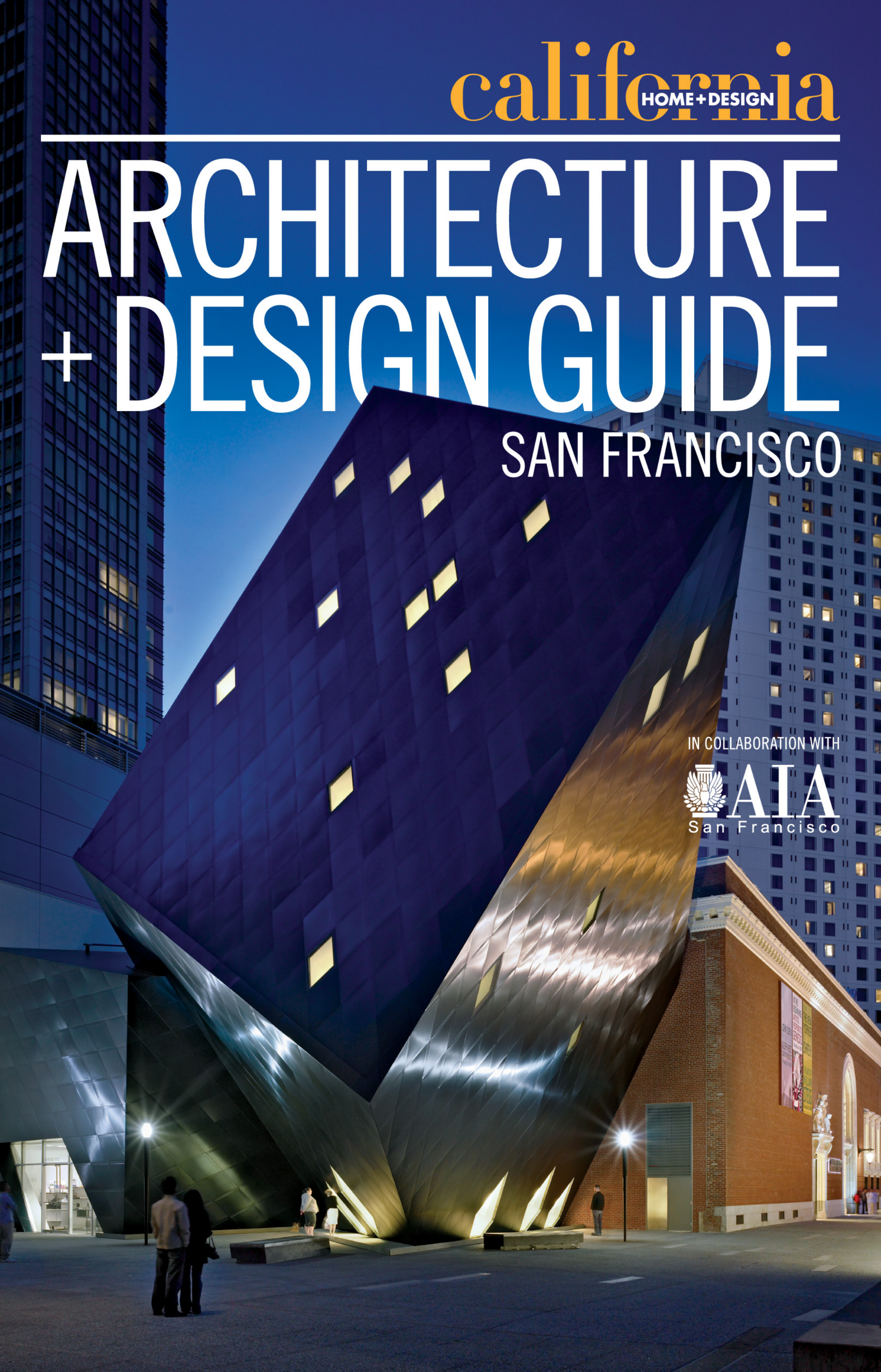
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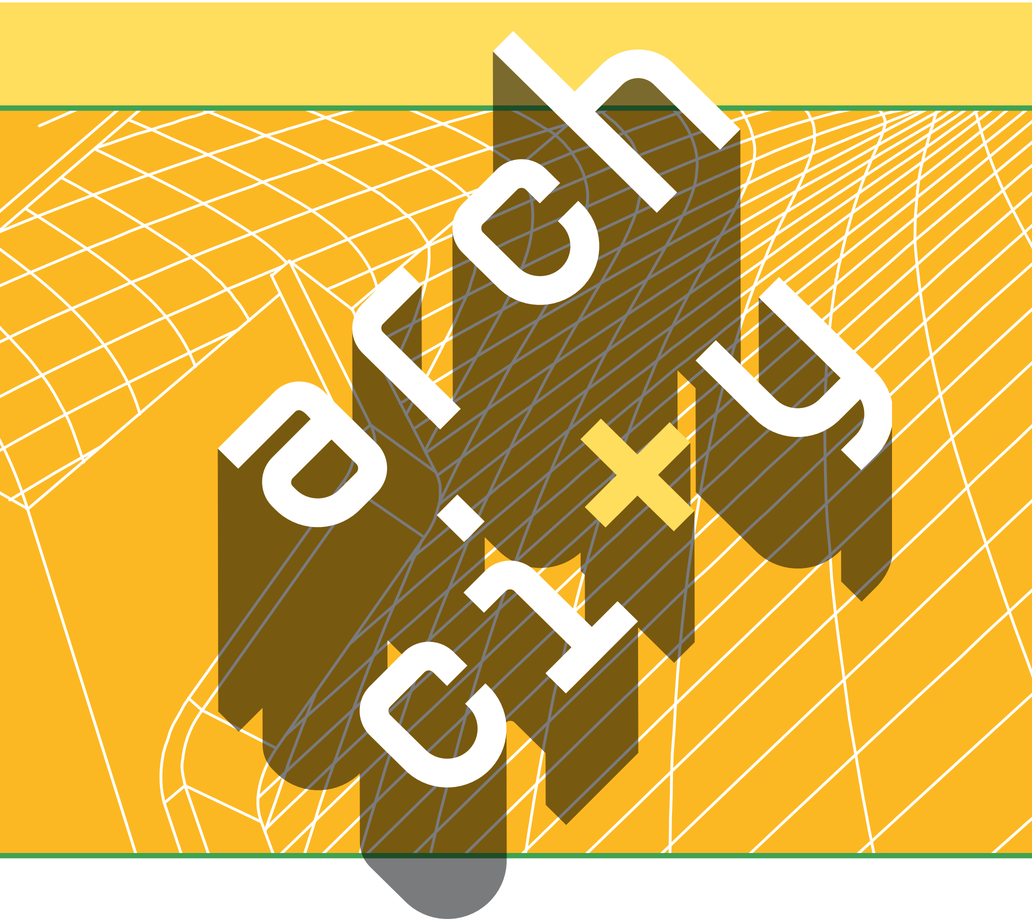


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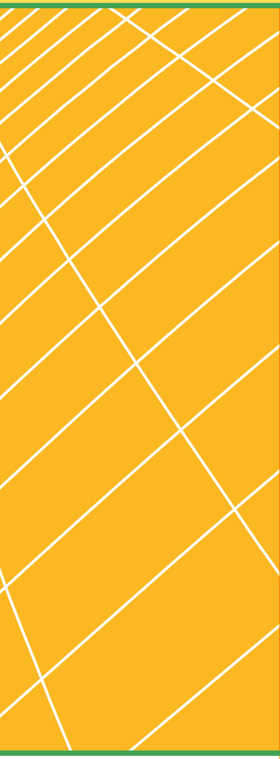
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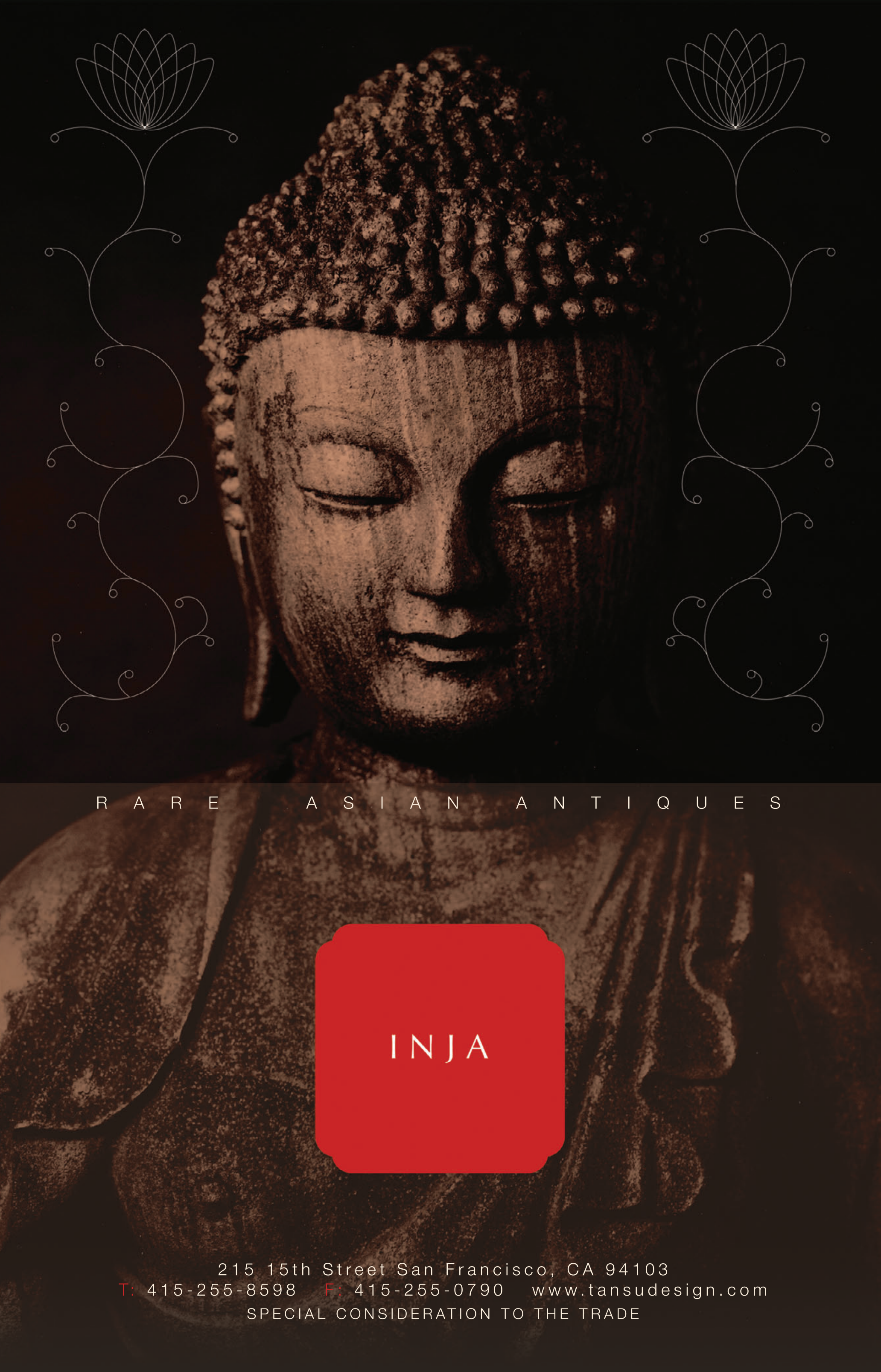

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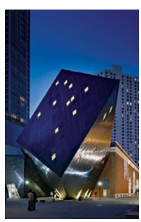
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THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION



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100 FIRST STREET



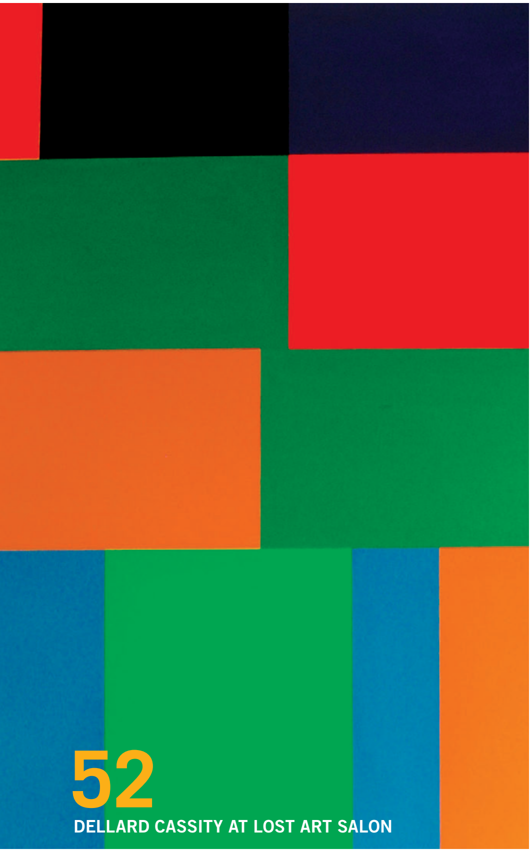
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MODERN BAMBOO



ON THE COVER
Photographer Bruce Damonte captures the evening brilliance of Daniel Libeskind's Contemporary Jewish Museum of San Francisco in the Yerba Buena arts district.

FROM TOP: BRUCE DAMONTE; KEITH BAKER; COURTESY OF MODERN BAMBOO


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ST. REGIS HOTEL



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TAZI DESIGN

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Dear Friends,

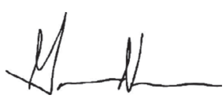
Here in San Francisco, we've always been innovators. When the city was leveled by the 1906 earthquake more than a century ago, San Franciscans began rebuilding immediately. Local leaders in industry and design came forward to reimagine a modern city: a center of banking and commerce comprising diverse communities. Then, at the turn of this century, a new type of San Francisco modernist emerged as industrial and graphic designers flourished amid the creativity of the dot-com boom. When the boom became a bust eight years ago, these pioneers remained and were ready to take on new challenges in digital technology, sustainable architecture and environmental design. This is no accident. San Francisco is a city of dreamers and doers.



Our dreams go beyond business and technology to the human level as well. Just this past year, some of the city's most esteemed architects and developers completed a handful of new housing opportunities designed to foster pride and well-being in some of our city's neediest residents. It is my job to create a framework for the success and vitality of all San Franciscans, and in the tough economy that we are facing, citizens are helping out wherever possible. Local architects, designers, shop owners and restaurateurs thrive because they are part of a spirited and hopeful community. This city has always been more than a place. San Francisco is an idea—that diversity builds a stronger society, that tolerance advances democracy, that compassion is essential for a better world.

Welcome to San Francisco, a small city with big plans, bound only by our capacity to imagine.

With warmest regards,



Gavin Newsom
Mayor

COURTESY OF THE MAYOR'S OFFICE

the top 25 BUILDINGS IN SAN FRANCISCO

From modern skyscrapers to venerable Victorians, AIA San Francisco's official list is a comprehensive overview of architecturally significant structures.



1

KEITH BAKER







1. ONE BUSH STREET (FORMER CROWN ZELLERBACH BUILDING)
An example of the early International style, the Financial District office building was designed by Skidmore, Owings & Merrill in 1959 and renovated by Hertzka & Knowles in 1990. The elevator wing is clad with nearly 5 million tiles in shades of gray.

2. 3200 BLOCK OF PACIFIC AVENUE
The row of classic shingled houses on this block date from 1900 to 1913, and represent San Francisco's finest grand mansions. Ernest Coxhead's 1902 home at 3232 Pacific Avenue has a very unusual balustrade.

3. CIRCLE GALLERY
140 Maiden Ln.
The 1948 Circle Gallery is rumored to be Frank Lloyd Wright's prototype for the Guggenheim Museum in New York, and is the architect's only building in San Francisco. The brick building's distinctive arched entry is echoed by the curving staircase inside.

4. CITY HALL
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Pl.
Part of the "City Beautiful" movement, City Hall was completed in 1915 by Bakewell & Brown and was restored to its former grandeur in the 1990s. The Beaux-Arts building is one of the city's most elegant structures.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: JOE FLETCHER; BRUCE DAMONTE; CHRIS PLUMMER







5. CONSERVATORY OF FLOWERS

Golden Gate Park, 100 John F. Kennedy Dr.

An elaborate Victorian greenhouse that dates back to 1878, the Conservatory of Flowers houses a large collection of exotic plants under its soaring glass ceilings. The oldest structure in Golden Gate Park, it was restored in 2003 by Architectural Resources Group.

6. CURRAN HOUSE

145 Taylor St.

The gritty Tenderloin neighborhood is home to Curran House, an affordable family-housing complex built by David Baker + Partners in 2005. The mixed-use project includes retail shops, and the lobby's glass wall opens into a garden courtyard that offers a respite from the urban surrounds.

7. M.H. DE YOUNG MEMORIAL MUSEUM

Golden Gate Park, 50 Hagiwara Tea Garden Dr.

Designed by the renowned Swiss architecture firm Herzog & de Meuron and local firm Fong & Chan Architects in 2005, the new de Young (which replaced the original building damaged in the 1989 earthquake) is clad in copper perforated to mimic dappled sunlight. Its twisting tower provides a breathtaking view of the park.

NEW TO THE SCENE:

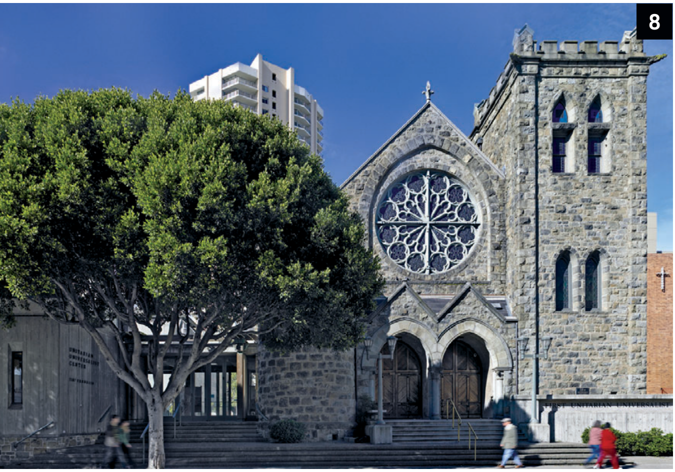


California Academy of Sciences

Golden Gate Park, 55 Music Concourse Dr.

Opened in 2008, the California Academy of Sciences celebrates the natural world and embodies sustainable design with its twin-domed living roof. Designed by Renzo Piano, the building received a LEED Platinum rating.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: DAVID WAKELY PHOTOGRAPHY; BRIAN ROSE; JOE FLETCHER (2)



8. FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH 1187 Franklin St.

Designed by George Percy in 1888, the Gothic Revival church features a giant rose window and is complemented by more recent contemporary structures of textured concrete and redwood by Callister Payne & Rosse from 1970.



9. GRACE CATHEDRAL 1100 California St.

Perched on the top of Nob Hill, the majestic Gothic form of Grace Cathedral was designed by Lewis Hobart in 1928. Notable elements include bronze doors modeled after Lorenzo Ghiberti's *Gates of Paradise*, a floor labyrinth patterned after Chartres and a chapel by AIDS artist Keith Haring.

10. HAAS-LILIENTHAL HOUSE 2007 Franklin St.

The Victorian era lives on in this Queen Anne residence, which has been turned into a museum (open on weekends and Wednesdays). Dating from 1886, the Peter R. Schmidt–designed house is complete with period furnishings and has intricate wooden gables and a circular corner tower.



11. HALLIDIE BUILDING 130 Sutter St.

Designed by Willis Polk in 1917, the Hallidie Building presages modern offices with its glass curtain wall (it's credited as the first such structure in the U.S.). Now home to the San Francisco chapter of the American Institute of Architects, the building embodies the transition from the old to the new, with ornamental balconies and cornice bordering the wide expanse of glass.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: BRUCE DAMONTE; JONNATHAN COLT; KEITH BAKER; BRUCE DAMONTE









12. JPMORGAN CHASE BUILDING

560 Mission St.

Cesar Pelli was inspired by the 1917 Hallidie Building in his concept for this office. Pelli's 2002 version of a curtain-wall building has a distinctive dark green steel frame with extra bands along the lower floors as a decorative flourish.

13. PALACE HOTEL

2 New Montgomery St.

The 1909 Palace Hotel by Trowbridge and Livingston brings back the opulence of the past. Its famed Garden Court restaurant, with its glorious stained-glass ceiling, was among the spaces restored by Skidmore, Owings & Merrill in 1991.

14. PALACE OF FINE ARTS

3301 Lyon St.

Designed by the city's favorite architect, Bernard Maybeck, for the Panama-Pacific International Exposition of 1915, the Palace of Fine Arts has since gone through a major restoration. The majesty of the rotunda is reflected in the adjoining lagoon.

15. PALACE OF THE LEGION OF HONOR

Lincoln Park, 34th Ave. & Clement St.

The Palace of the Legion of Honor provides a classic setting for a collection of Rodin sculptures. George Applegarth's 1916 design is modeled on the building in Paris of the same name.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: © TIM GRIFFITH/ESTO; SOM I © HEDRICH BLESSING; SHARON MOLLERUS; COURTESY OF THE EXPLORATORIUM



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CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: TIM GRIFFITH; BRUCE DAMONTE; (C) TIM GRIFFITH/ESTO; COURTESY OF SFMOMA

16. PLAZA APARTMENTS
Sixth and Howard Streets

A joint project by Leddy Maytum Stacy Architects and Paulett Taggart Architects, the 2006 mixed-use development was one of the city's first forays into environmentally responsible housing. It provides 106 units for formerly homeless residents and sports a brightly colored exterior.

17. RUSSELL HOUSE
3778 Washington St.

With a round bay window that cantilevers from the northwest corner, the minimalist home was designed by German architect Eric Mendelsohn in 1952. It is a striking example of Bay Area vernacular modernism.



18

18. SAN FRANCISCO FEDERAL BUILDING
90 Seventh St.

Morphosis/SmithGroup's 2007 Federal Building represents the new environmental consciousness in commercial design. The stainless-steel sunshades floating over the glass walls allow the space to be naturally lit and ventilated.

19. SAN FRANCISCO MUSEUM OF MODERN ART
151 Third St.

The SFMOMA was the first U.S. commission for architect Mario Botta, who designed it with Hellmuth, Obata + Kassabaum. Completed in 1995, the museum's distinctive geometry is marked by a large central atrium.



19





20. **ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL**
1111 Gough St.
The Cathedral of Saint Mary of the Assumption was designed in 1971 by architects Pietro Belluschi, Pier Luigi Nervi and McSweeney, Ryan & Lee. The arches of the square structure curve to meet in a cross dramatically defined by thin strips of stained glass. (See p. 58 for another view.)

21. **SWEDENBORGIAN CHURCH**
2107 Lyon St.
One of California's earliest Arts and Crafts buildings, the Congregation of the Swedenborgian Church of San Francisco has a madrone-beamed ceiling and handcrafted furnishings. It was created in 1894 by a group of notable area architects, including Bernard Maybeck.

22. **TEMPLE EMANU-EL**
2 Lake St.
Designed by Arthur Brown, Jr., in 1926, this Byzantine-style domed temple was inspired by the Haggia Sophia in Istanbul. A bright blue ceiling decorated with painted motifs and contemporary stained glass windows by Mark Adams are part of the interior's dramatic hues.



FROM TOP: BRUCE DAMONTE; JOE FLETCHER; BRUCE DAMONTE



24. WAR MEMORIAL OPERA HOUSE AND VETERANS' BUILDING

401 Van Ness Ave.

A matching pair of buildings, the War Memorial Opera House and Veterans' Building were designed by Arthur Brown, Jr., and G. Albert Lansburgh in 1932. Along with City Hall, the structures represent an exceptional rendition of Beaux-Arts style.

25. YERBA BUENA CENTER

Mission St. (between Third and Fourth Streets)

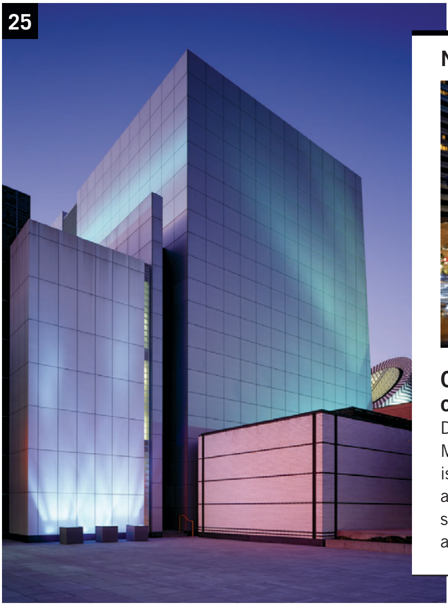
A revitalized South of Market arts district, Yerba Buena includes the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts (by Fumihiko Maki, 1993, pictured), the Novellus Theater (James Stewart Polshek & Partners, 1993) and the Metreon, a shopping and entertainment center (SMWM / Gary Handel + Associates, 1996).



23. TRANSAMERICA PYRAMID

600 Montgomery St.

The subject of some scorn at its inception, the pyramidal Transamerica Building designed by William Pereira in 1972 has become the city's most iconic skyscraper. The structure's top floor, the 48th, is the building's smallest, at 2,025 square feet.



FROM TOP: JOHN KETOLA; BRUCE DAMONTE (2); JOE FLETCHER

NEW TO THE SCENE:



Contemporary Jewish Museum of San Francisco 736 Mission St.

Daniel Libeskind's 2008 Contemporary Jewish Museum, designed in conjunction with WRNS Studio, is an example of adaptive reuse as well as modern architecture. Retaining the facade of the historic power substation (a Willis Polk design from 1907), Libeskind added a blue steel cube with daring angles.











The curvaceous form of Modern Bamboo's **Spring chair** is made from a single piece of bamboo plywood *($710 in ebony and cherry finishes; available at B. Mori)*.

sustainable STYLE

There's a wealth of talent in the Bay Area, especially when it comes to environmentally friendly design. See SHOP listings for information about local retailers.



Designed by Leo Estevez of Obleeek Objects, the **extra-large planter** is made from a proprietary concrete blend that replaces half of the Portland cement with recycled materials *($225; available at Propeller)*.



Made from 30 percent recycled rubber, the **Napkin Catch placemat** from Josh Jakus features a pop-out napkin ring for the perfect place setting *($19; available at designpublic.com)*.

COURTESY OF THE MANUFACTURERS

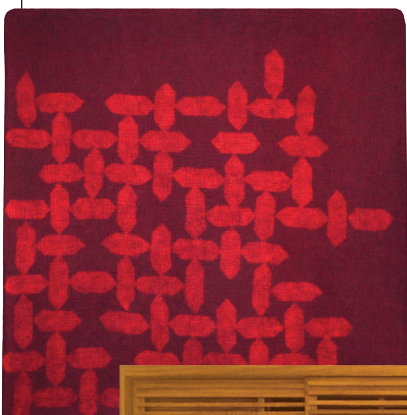
Each of the imperfectly shaped pieces of Rae Dunn's handmade pottery line, such as the **Knock on Wood plate**, is printed with a poignant word *($32; available at the San Francisco Museum of Craft and Design)*.





The **Moso pendant lamps** from Brian Schmitt have shades made from end-grain bamboo veneer *($288 for small, $318 for large; available at branchhome.com)*.

The **Hextile felt rug** from Peace Industry combines modern graphic shapes with the ancient art of Iranian felt making *($2,205; available at Peace Industry)*.



The **Slatt Hide credenza** from Bevara Design House is made from reclaimed walnut *($5,000; available at Zinc Details)*.

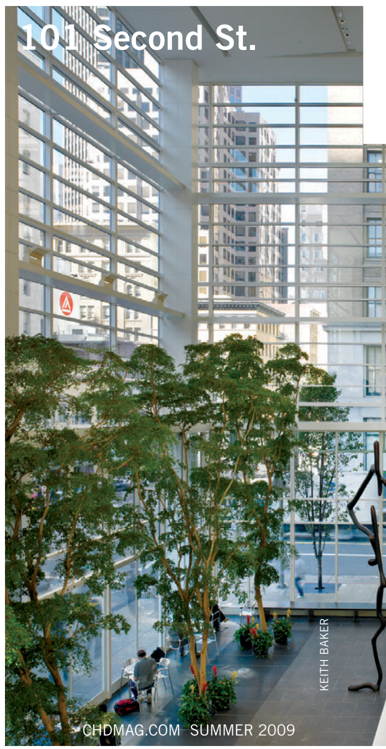




secret urban oases

Tucked throughout downtown San Francisco are dozens of hidden retreats. Once you know where to look for them, you'll have your own favorite POPOS (Privately Owned Public Open Spaces). We asked the nonprofit group SPUR (San Francisco Planning + Urban Research Association) for their top picks; a complete list is available at *spur.org*.





KEITH BAKER







343 Sansome St.

(cross street: Halleck)
Take the elevator up to the terrace on the 15th floor. Joan Brown's *Four Seasons Obelisk* stands in the center; also note the intricate fountain by Belgian sculptor Pol Bury in the Sacramento Street lobby. *Open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.*

100 First St.

(cross street: Mission)
A staircase from the street leads up to this popular sun terrace, where the main feature is an intricate fountain by John Luebtow. Fissures in a black granite wall spout water into pools where undulating glass panels evoke waves. The rectangular terrace is designed on a 45-degree grid, with planter beds and terraces that form intimate spaces. *Open at all times.*

560 Mission St.

(cross street: Jessie)
This garden is adjacent to a Cesar Pelli-designed office building (one of AIA SF's "Top 25 Buildings," p. 28). A bamboo grove covers the windowless facade of the building next door, and along Mission Street is a kinetic George Rickey sculpture, *Annular Eclipse. Open at all times.*

100 Pine St.

(cross street: Front)
Tucked between very tall buildings, this little gem of a space, with travertine and granite floors, is accessible through the building lobby or directly off Front Street. *Cafe open 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.; garden open 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.*

101 Second St.

(cross street: Mission)
Minimalist design and sumptuous materials characterize this expansive five-story greenhouse, where beige marble walls contrast with black granite floors. The space features artwork by painter Charles Arnoldi and sculpture by Larry Bell. *Open 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.*

One Sansome St.

(cross street: Sutter)
This glass-roofed atrium is one of the most elegant open spaces downtown. White marble floors and walls are dramatically offset with a black marble fountain. A replica of an Art Deco bronze sculpture, the *Star Maiden* by Alexander Stirling Calder, graces one of the niches. *Open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.*

425 Market St.

(cross street: Fremont)
This urban garden is shady but pleasant. Stylishly outfitted with gray and pink granite paving and architectural benches, it is a fine place to people-watch while sipping a cup of coffee from the adjacent cafe. *Open at all times.*

525 Market St.

(cross street: First)
Next to Ecker Alley is this space with a massive granite fountain by Elyn Zimmerman. Benches in between the fountain's two halves offer a prime spot to enjoy the flowing water. *Open at all times.*

199 Fremont St.

(cross street: Beale)
This garden was a collaboration between sculptor Paul Kos and poet Robert Hass; a poem by Hass is engraved on the wall behind a graceful line of birch trees. *Open at all times.*

555 Mission St.

(cross street: First)
A large, playful sculpture by Jonathan Borofsky dominates this plaza, which steps up on the west side to a sitting area with wooden benches and three large aluminum heads by Ugo Rondinone. *Open at all times.*

2020 vision

These new structures—some haven't yet broken ground, while some are already under construction—are slated to change the shape of San Francisco over the next decade.







TRINITY PLACE

Bernardo Fort-Brescia of Arquitectonica adds another arrow to his San Francisco quiver, following up the Infinity in South Park with this massive mixed-used project comprising 1,900 residential units along with retail shops. The five-acre development runs along Eighth Street through to Market Street, speeding along a long-awaited revitalization of this area of downtown. The first of three planned phases of building, which includes 440 units, broke ground in May 2008 and is scheduled to be finished next year. The facade is a mix of glass, concrete and metal, and the layout breaks things up with overlapping geometries around a large courtyard.

TREASURE ISLAND

Built for the 1939 World's Fair, the 400-acre manmade island north of the city is once again fertile ground for utopian dreams. Re-envisioned by SOM (in conjunction with SMWM and CMG) as a model of sustainability, the high-density, pedestrian-focused community will retain most of its open space while providing 6,000 residential units as well as a 20-acre organic farm. The first residences should begin opening around 2013.

FROM TOP: COURTESY OF ARQUITECTONICA; COURTESY OF SOM/(C) DBOX



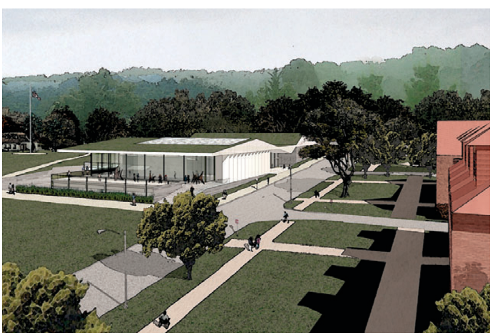
SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Green energy will be at the forefront—literally—at the new headquarters of the Public Utilities Commission, just down the street from City Hall. Replacing an old building damaged in the 1989 earthquake, the new design by local firm Kaplan McLaughlin Diaz Architects is anticipated to be completed in 2012 and will lead by example by exceeding San Francisco's mandatory standards for green building. Corkscrew-shaped wind turbines and solar panels—both integrated into the facade—will provide 40 percent of the building's power, and water-conserving measures include an on-site graywater-recycling system.



TRANSBAY TERMINAL

The winner of a high-profile international competition, Pelli Clarke Pelli's design features what will be the tallest building in the city—a 1,000-foot-high obelisk. But what has captivated everyone's imagination is the 5.4-acre rooftop park. Replacing a grim bus station at First and Mission Streets, the new center is scheduled to be completed in 2014. It will eventually bring Caltrain to downtown and have a high-speed rail link with Los Angeles. With nearby high-rises in the works, the area is being redeveloped as a commuter-friendly neighborhood.



CONTEMPORARY ART MUSEUM AT THE PRESIDIO (CAMP)

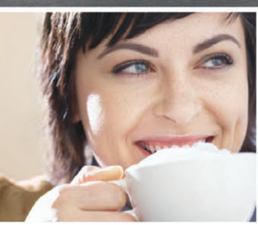
The plans for Gap founder Don Fisher's pet project, a $150 million museum in the Presidio, have gone through a major revision. Responding to concerns about the initial design—a sleek white box by New York's Richard Gluckman—a new proposal by local firm WRNS Studio has a substantially lower profile, further subdued by a green roof. The debate is expected to continue, with no construction date set.

FROM TOP: COURTESY OF HINES; COURTESY OF KMD; COURTESY OF WRNS STUDIO


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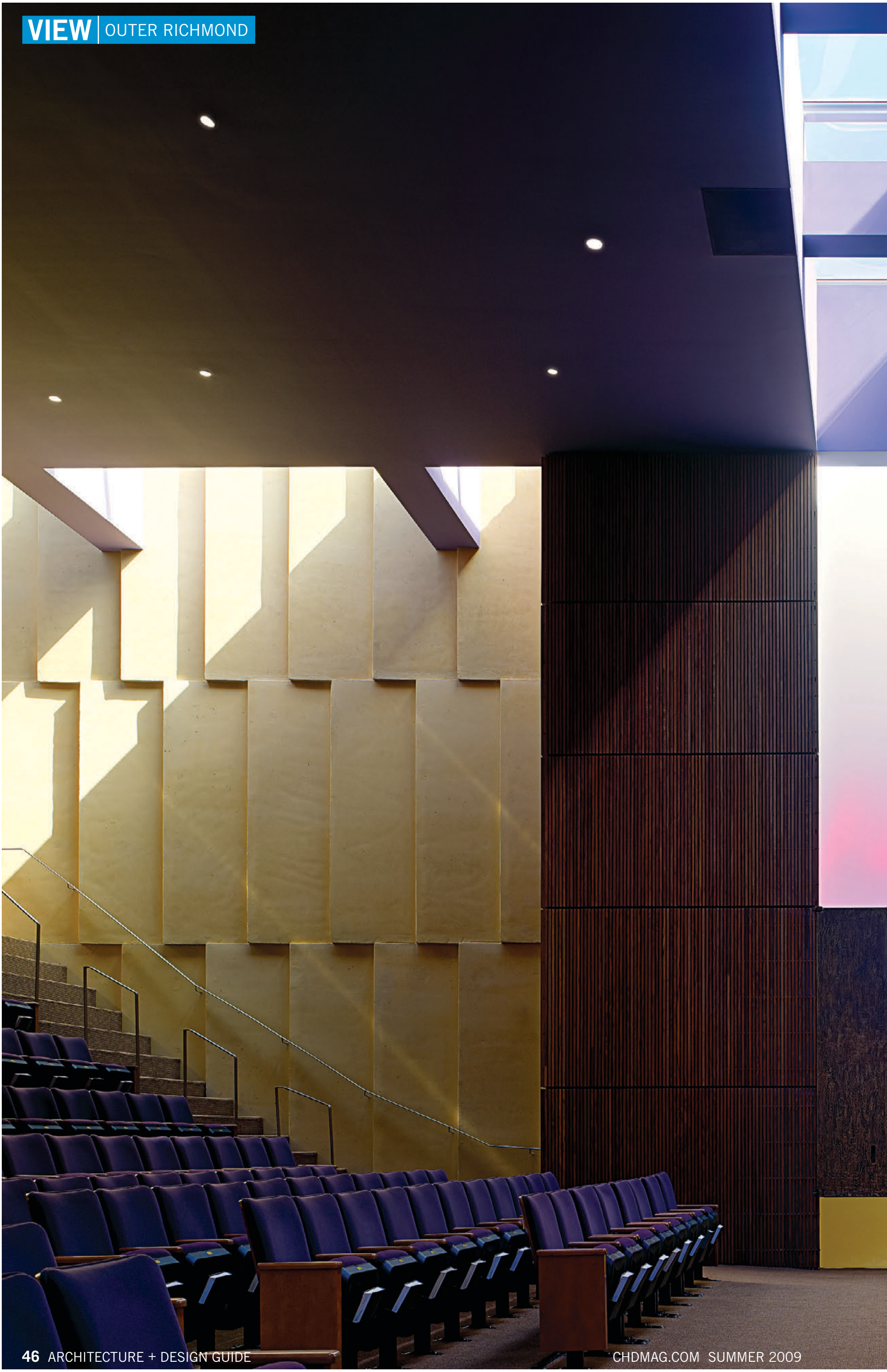
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Congregation Beth Sholom Synagogue

Stanley Saitowitz / Natoma Architects won a 2009 AIA SF Honor Award and was a finalist in last year's World Architecture Awards for creating this sacred communal space within the fabric of an urban environment.

PHOTOGRAPH BY JOE FLETCHER
OCTOBER 6, 2008

SF MAP

San Francisco

Population: 799,263 | Dimensions, in miles: 7x7 | Established: 1850

THE TOP 25 BUILDINGS IN SAN FRANCISCO

1. ONE BUSH STREET
2. 3200 BLOCK OF PACIFIC AVENUE
3. CIRCLE GALLERY
4. CITY HALL
5. CONSERVATORY OF FLOWERS
6. CURRAN HOUSE
7. M.H. DE YOUNG MEMORIAL MUSEUM
8.
9.
10.
11.
12.
13.
14.



FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH
GRACE CATHEDRAL
HAAS-LILIENTHAL HOUSE
HALLIDIE BUILDING
JPMORGAN CHASE BUILDING
PALACE HOTEL
PALACE OF FINE ARTS

15. PALACE OF THE LEGION OF HONOR
16. PLAZA APARTMENTS
17. RUSSELL HOUSE
18. SAN FRANCISCO FEDERAL BUILDING
19. SAN FRANCISCO MUSEUM OF MODERN ART
20. ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL

21. SWEDENBORGIAN CHURCH
22. TEMPLE EMANU-EL
23. TRANSAMERICA PYRAMID
24. WAR MEMORIAL OPERA HOUSE AND VETERANS' BUILDING
25. YERBA BUENA CENTER

NEW TO THE SCENE:
- CONTEMPORARY JEWISH MUSEUM OF SAN FRANCISCO
- CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES



SEE

MUSEUMS

ASIAN ART MUSEUM
200 Larkin St. (Civic Center)
415.581.3500, asianart.org. Closed Mon.
"Lords of the Samurai" presents armory suits, weapons, paintings and teaware from the Hosokawa clan, the powerful Japanese family of warriors that have a 600-year-long lineage of military nobility. Also included in the exhibition will be more than 150 of the Hosokawa family's collected artworks from the Kumamoto Castle, Eisei-Bunko Museum in Tokyo and the Kumamoto Municipal Museum in Kyushu (June 12–Sept. 20).

CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
55 Music Concourse Dr. (Golden Gate Park)
415.379.8000, calacademy.org
The new Renzo Piano–designed building itself draws throngs of visitors. Inside, tour "Rainforests of the World," a four-story greenhouse containing orchids, birds and a cave of bats. Commune with the penguin colony, watch brightly colored fish flashing through a coral reef and scope out African animals (living and stuffed). Every Thursday night through October, the Academy will be transformed into a lively venue filled with music, mingling and cocktails.

CARTOON ART MUSEUM
655 Mission St. (SoMa)
415.227.8666, cartoonart.org. Closed Mon.
"Watchmen" is an in-depth look at one of the most anticipated films of 2009 and the graphic novel that inspired it. The exhibition features dozens of concept illustrations, preparatory sketches and props from the film as well as original comic book pages illustrated by Dave Gibbons, the co-creator and illustrator of the critically acclaimed book (through July 19).

CONSERVATORY OF FLOWERS
100 John F. Kennedy Dr. (Golden Gate Park)
415.666.7001, conservatoryofflowers.org. Closed Mon.
Water lilies, two-story-tall palms and orchids with spidery blooms inhabit this Victorian glass jewel box (see p. 26). Research your chocolate bar at "Edible Expedition," a tour of cacao, vanilla and other tropical plants harvested for food (May 1–Nov. 1).

CONTEMPORARY JEWISH MUSEUM
736 Mission St. (SoMa)
415.655.7800, thecjm.org. Closed Wed.
The new Daniel Libeskind–designed space (featured on the cover) thoughtfully juxtaposes a historic masonry building with a modern blue box punctuated with a geometric pattern of windows. Music experts Roger Bennett and Josh Kun guest-curated "Jews on Vinyl" (through June 9), a collection of LPs that the two collected from dusty garage sales and attics to tell the story of Jewish music in America.


CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

TIM GRIFFITH

DE YOUNG MUSEUM
50 Hagiwara Tea Garden Dr. (Golden Gate Park)
415.750.3600, famsf.org
Early 20th- and 21st-century photographs of signs, signals and billboards are on display in "Signs: Wordplay in Photography" (through June 14). "Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs" showcases artifacts from the reign of Egypt's King Tut more than 3,000 years ago. The exhibition returns to the de Young 30 years after the original exhibition in SF, and includes unseen treasures and additional artifacts (June 27–Mar. 28).

Architecture Tours

- **AIA SAN FRANCISCO** offers self-guided audio tours narrated by one of the city's best architectural historians, Mitchell Schwarzer. Each of the four walking tours lasts about an hour and covers the architectural highlights in a particular area: Civic Center, South of Market and Union Square and Skyscrapers of San Francisco. Tours can be downloaded at *aiasf.org*.

- **THE VICTORIAN HOME WALK** is a two-and-a-half-hour guided walking tour of San Francisco's celebrated historic homes, including some in Pacific Heights, where tour buses are prohibited. Tours start daily at 11am in Union Square (on the corner of Post and Powell). Tickets are $25, and no reservations are required. *Victorianwalk.com*.

LEGION OF HONOR

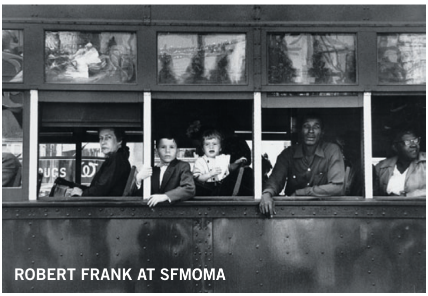
34th Ave. & Clement St. (Outer Richmond)
415.750.3600, famsf.org. Closed Mon.
Imaginative prints are replete with symbol and fantasy in "Waking Dreams: Max Klinger and the Symbolist Print," a collection of works by the 19th-century painter and sculptor (through July 4).

MUSEUM OF THE AFRICAN DIASPORA

685 Mission St. (SoMa)
415.358.7200, moadsf.org. Closed Mon.–Tues.
MoAD looks at African and African-American culture and experience. "Let Your Motto Be Resistance: African-American Portraits" features photographs of 70 significant African-Americans—from Frederick Douglass to Sarah Vaughan to Richard Pryor (Mar. 21–June 14).

MUSEUM OF CRAFT AND FOLK ART

51 Yerba Buena Ln. (SoMa)
415.227.4888, mocfa.org. Closed Mon.
"Legacy of an American Potter" spans the life and work of Warren MacKenzie, the 20th-century American studio potter who gained attention in the 1950s, as he mastered the ceramic art form (June 11–Sept. 13).



ROBERT FRANK AT SFMOMA

ROBERT FRANK, *TROLLEY—NEW ORLEANS*, 1955; COURTESY OF SFMOMA

SAN FRANCISCO MUSEUM OF CRAFT+DESIGN

550 Sutter St. (Union Square)
415.773.0303, sfmcd.com
Bay Area designer and educator Matthew Kahn's midcentury art and design concepts are on display, as well as textiles by his wife, Lyda Kahn, and ceramics by Virginia Davidson and Ernie Kim (May 8–July 12). "Scotland and Silver of the Stars" is a collection of pieces created by Scottish silversmiths and chosen celebrities—including violinist Nicola Benedetti, actors Sir Sean Connery and Ewan McGregor and fashion designer Alexander McQueen—based on the theme, "A Drink with a Close Friend" (July 24-Oct. 4).

SAN FRANCISCO MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

151 Third St. (SoMa)
415.357.4000, sfmoma.org. Closed Wed.
Constructed from everyday materials—paper, plastic sheeting and mud—work by Indian artist Ranjani Shettar takes on an organic look (Mar. 21–July 7). The midcentury motels, diners and cars shot by Robert Frank influenced a generation of photographers (May 16–Aug. 23). The work of Georgia O'Keeffe and Ansel Adams, who became friends in Taos in 1929, is playfully paired in "Natural Affinities" (May 30–Sept. 7).

CultureBus

To get to San Francisco's major museums, visitors can take the CultureBus, a special public transportation route (Muni 74X). The bright yellow bus goes between SFMOMA (near the Contemporary Jewish Museum and Yerba Buena) and Golden Gate Park's California Academy of Sciences and de Young Museum. En route, it stops at Union Square and at the Asian Art Museum in the Civic Center area. Tickets ($7 for adults, $5 for youth and seniors) are good for unlimited travel between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.

YERBA BUENA CENTER FOR THE ARTS

701 Mission St. (SoMa)
415.978.2787, ybca.org
In "Meet Me at the Center of the Earth," Alvin Ailey dancer Nick Cave dons colorful ceremonial costumes that explore myth and culture; the exhibition includes three live performances (Mar. 28–July 5). Established Bay Area artists work with students from the YBCA's Young Artists at Work program (YAAW) to bring an idea to reality for "Through Future Eyes: YAAW Students Select" (Apr. 24–July 5).

GALLERIES

ANDREA SCHWARTZ GALLERY

525 Second St. (SoMa)
415.495.2090, asgallery.com
Seamus Conley's realistic paintings place Western cowboys against the backdrop of environmental landscapes (Apr. 1–May 15). Circles in lush colors bubble across Deborah Bell's canvases; patterns of lines in string and acrylic gel crisscross Mary Ijichi's drawings (May 27–June 27). Eric Michael Corrigan and Livia Stein (July 1–31) show oil-on-canvas paintings.

AUTODESK GALLERY AT ONE MARKET

One Market Stl, Second Fl. (Embarcadero)
415.356.0700, autodesk.com. Open to the public on the first Wednesday of every month (1–5 p.m.).
Celebrating the 3D design program AutoCAD, the gallery features the complete design cycle of many well-known projects, from Yves Béhar's One Laptop Per Child to Skidmore, Owings & Merrill's Cathedral of Christ the Light. "Pecha Kucha," which means "chit-chat" in Japanese, is an event where designers show 20 slides in 20 seconds—a concept created in 2003 by Tokyo's Klein Dytham Architecture, it has since spread worldwide (May 1).

BRAUNSTEIN/QUAY GALLERY

430 Clementina St. (SoMa)
415.278.9850, bquayartgallery.com. Closed Mon.
This 47-year vet of the art world offers paintings primarily from Bay Area artists, as well as sculpture and fiber art. Susan York uses a constructivist and De Stijl approach to create her porcelain and graphite works (Apr. 2–May 2). In "One Act Plays," Michael Stevens uses storytelling as a device in his mixed-media wooden sculptures (May 7–June 6).

CALDWELL SNYDER GALLERY

341 Sutter St. (Union Square)
415.296.7896, caldwellsnyder.com
This gallery aims to introduce new audiences to European and Latin-American painters and sculptors who have a following in their home countries but have yet to gain a strong foothold in the United States. New works by Spanish artist Josep Cisquella include a series of images involving bicycles and shadows—a slyly humorous, decidedly postmodern twist on his renowned paintings of walls (opening June 4).

CATHARINE CLARK GALLERY

150 Minna St. (SoMa)
415.399.1439, cclarkgallery.com
Established in 1991, Catharine Clark Gallery San Francisco presents the work of local, national and international contemporary artists. Brothers Carlos and Jason Sanchez create eerily staged portraits (May 16–June 20). In an illustrative style and delicate colors, longtime Bay Area artist Inez Storer paints historical-looking narratives (Mar. 24–May 9).

Public Art Highlights

- At San Francisco International Airport's entrance to the BART station is **Ned Kahn's 2003 *Wind Portal***. The 200,000 mirrored disks cover a curved wall and undulate in response to air currents, creating an ever-changing mosaic.
- **Louise Bourgeois' 2003 *Crouching Spider***, a 27-foot-wide arachnid made of bronze and steel, is poised on the Embarcadero at Pier 14.
- **Richard Serra's 2004 *Ballast***, the sculptor's first piece in San Francisco, holds court at UCSF's Mission Bay campus. The two 50-foot-tall plates are made of Cor-Ten steel.
- The public art along the Third Street Light Rail includes **Bill and Mary Buchen's 2007 sculpture, *Kinetic Helix***, which is at UCSF's Mission Bay Muni station.
- The **2008 *Language of the Birds* by Brian Goggin with Dorka Keehn** is a flock of 23 illuminated books that have taken wing at the intersection of Grant Avenue and Columbus Street in North Beach. Words and phrases—seemingly fallen out of the books—are embedded into the pavement below.

CCA WATTIS INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ARTS

1111 Eighth St. (Potrero Hill)
415.551.9210, wattis.org
At California College of the Arts, Wattis Institute presents work from intriguing contemporary artists. Peter Coffin fabricates conceptual sculptures (Apr. 7–May 2). "Low Life Slow Life" is a two-part exhibition curated by the acclaimed Los Angeles–based artist Paul McCarthy, which presents a diverse range of artworks related to McCarthy's memories of his own career (through May 30).



MARK DI SUVERO AT JOHN BERGGRUEN GALLERY

GALLERY 16

501 Third St. (Mission)
415.626.7495, gallery16.com
This independent gallery's exhibition program involves artists working in a wide range of media exploring a variety of aesthetic, conceptual and technological issues. Bruno Fazzolari's "Cold Turkey" is a selection of 650 brush-and-ink drawings that he worked on over the course of four years (Apr. 3–May 8).

GALLERY PAULE ANGLIM

14 Geary St. (Union Square)
415.433.2710, gallerypauleanglim.com
A longtime staple of the SF art scene, Paule Anglim shows both well-established and lesser-known artists. William Tucker casts bronze-and-glass sculptures of human forms; David Hannah creates mixed-media pieces and installations and an outdoor exhibit features Deborah Butterfield's whimsical cast-bronze horse sculptures (all May 6–June 6).

MARK DI SUVERO, *R & R*, 2008; COURTESY OF JOHN BERGGRUEN GALLERY


PRODUCT SHOWN: LYON CHAIR, AVIARY IN MOSS, STOCKHOLM IN SURF, SILHOUETTE IN KIWI, DAHLIA IN SLATE

HANG ART

567 Sutter St. (Union Square)
415.434.4264, hangart.com

Hang Art features lesser-known and up-and-coming Bay Area artists and also offers pieces for rent. David Fullarton's paintings highlight the comical idiosyncrasies of daily life in "Once again I fail to live up to my advance publicity"; a group exhibit called "Time Lapse" is also showing (both Apr. 1–30).

JAPONESQUE GALLERY

824 Montgomery St. (Jackson Square)
415.391.8860, japonesquegallery.com

This gallery-cum-showroom carries art, furniture and antiques executed from natural materials—clay, wood, bamboo, iron, bronze and linen—with a distinctive Japanese view. The permanent collection includes Hiromichi Iwashita's haunting wooden panels with undulating chisel marks; stone sculptures by master carver Masatoshi Izumi; a circa-1700 Buddha rescued from an incinerated temple on Kyushu Island and large-scale calligraphy by Yuichi Inoue.

JOHN BERGGRUEN GALLERY

228 Grant Ave. (Union Square)
415.781.4629, berggruen.com

Established in 1970, this gallery comprises two floors of exhibition space and specializes in 20th-century American and European paintings, drawings, sculpture, and limited edition prints. New work by Abstract Expressionist sculptor Mark di Suvero, who works primarily with industrial materials in an oversized scale, will be featured through May 23.

LOST ART SALON

245 South Van Ness Ave. (Mission)
415.861.1530, lostartsalon.com

Lost Art straddles the line between shop and gallery, with 20th-century objects sharing the densely stocked showroom with artwork. Currently featured are works from two midcentury artists: Gary Lee Shaffer's stone lithographs (Mar. 26–June 30) and Dellard Cassity's abstraction and op art (July 9–Sept. 30).

THE LUGGAGE STORE

1007 Market St. (SoMa)
415.255.5971, luggagestoregallery.org

The curators here have a keen eye for street culture and outsider art, funk and assemblage. They also host the Bay Area's longest-running experimental-sound series.

MODERNISM

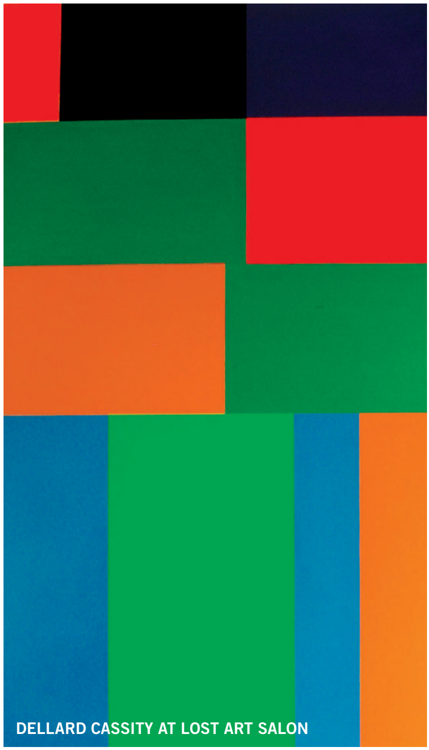
685 Market St., Ste. 290 (SoMa)
415.541.0461, modernisminc.com

Founded in 1979, Modernism has presented more than 300 exhibitions—both historical and contemporary, in media ranging from painting to photography, sculpture to performance—by an international roster of artists. Exhibitions feature historic styles including Dada, Cubism, Surrealism, Vorticism, German Expressionism, and the Russian avant-garde between 1910 and 1930.

RATIO 3

1447 Stevenson St. (Mission)
415.821.3371, ratio3.org

This Mission District gallery focuses on contemporary art. "Slow Lightning" features Miriam Böhm's photographs-within-photographs and Torsten Lauschmann's video installation, loosely based on an image by Czech photographer Josef Koudelka (May 15–June 20). The gallery's summer group show opens in June.



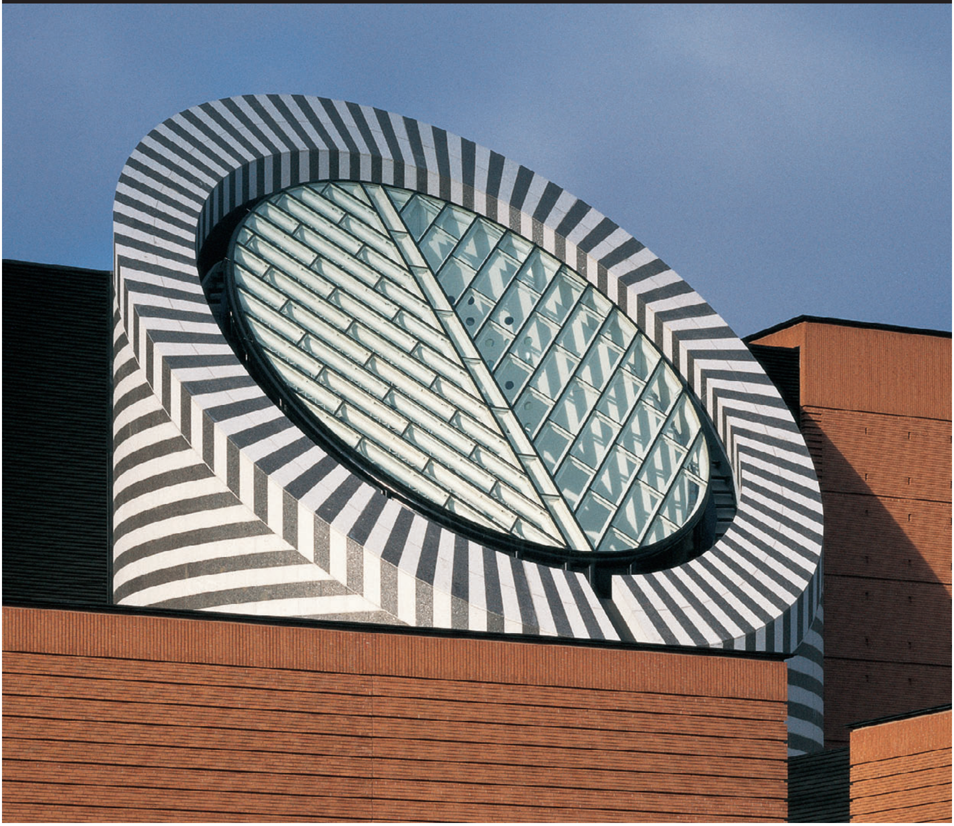
DELLARD CASSITY AT LOST ART SALON

DELLARD CASSITY, COURTESY OF LOST ART SALON

RAYKO PHOTO CENTER

428 Third St. (SoMa)
415.495.3773, raykophoto.com

This 12,000-square-foot public photographic facility has rental darkrooms, a digital lab and studio space. The lab includes a broad range of services, classes and workshops and even private tutoring. The gallery features more than a dozen exhibitions a year. London-based South African photographer Michelle Sank exhibits her images of youth culture from around the globe, while simultaneously taking to the streets to capture young San Franciscans (May 25–June 23).

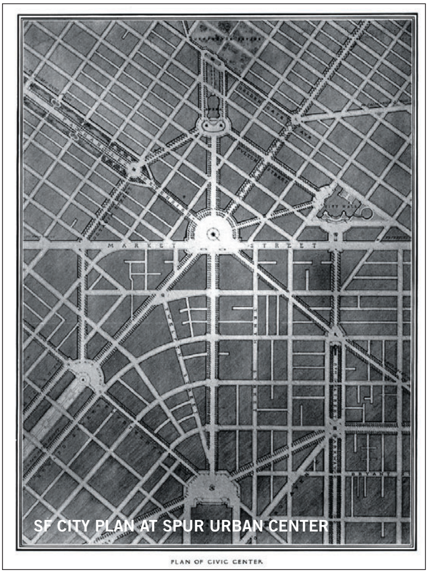




SPUR URBAN CENTER

654 Mission St. (SoMa)
415.781.8726, spur.org

This organization's premiere exhibition, "Agents of Change: Civic Idealism and the Making of San Francisco," features artifacts and plans—ranging from the 1847 O'Farrell speculative land survey to Daniel Burnham's 1905 plan for San Francisco to midcentury representations of spiraling freeway networks (and, in response, the protests impeding their development in the 1960s)—presented through the viewpoints of the people who produced and used them to envision a better city (May 29-Nov. 1).



SF CITY PLAN AT SPUR URBAN CENTER

STEPHEN WIRTZ GALLERY

49 Geary St., Third Fl. (Union Square)
415.433.6879, wirtzgallery.com

This downtown gallery focuses on nonobjective and conceptual work as well as photography. On display are paintings by Gabriel Klasmer, an Israeli artist known for creating large monochromatic works as well as a series of mechanical apparatuses that replace the human hand as a means of making art (May 5–June 6) and Kathryn Spence's sculptures and drawings from used, found and gathered materials (June 9–July 18).

TJASA OWEN

1850 Union St., Studio No.5,
415.350.7910, tjasaowen.com

Artist Tjasa Owen showcases her latest colorful rural and coastal landscape paintings in this studio/gallery space. She integrates the themes of landscape and correspondence to create her larger-format paintings, employing acrylics, oils and pastels as well as collage.

AIA San Francisco Exhibits

CENTER FOR ARCHITECTURE + DESIGN GALLERY AT AIA SAN FRANCISCO
130 Sutter St., Ste. 600 (Union Square)
aiasf.org

"The Architecture of (Social) Responsibility" explores the contributions of six local architecture nonprofit organizations, from the Asian Neighborhood Design's affordable housing for the poorest San Franciscans to Architecture for Humanity's efforts to rebuild Sri Lankan villages devastated by tsunamis to San Francisco Architectural Foundation's education of kids about careers in architecture (April 9–May 29). AIGA San Francisco will open its Design Week exhibit, which will salute the 50th anniversary of Communication Arts and the 2009 winners of Cause/Affect, a biennial graphic design competition that celebrates the work of designers and organizations who set out to positively impact our society and communities (June 11–Aug. 7). "Small Firms, Great Projects" showcases the work of local architecture and design professionals, introducing viewers to architecture and design firms specializing in new residences and remodels, commercial and retail spaces, educational, civic, institutional and religious projects, historic preservation and landscape and interior design (Aug. 27–Oct. 23).



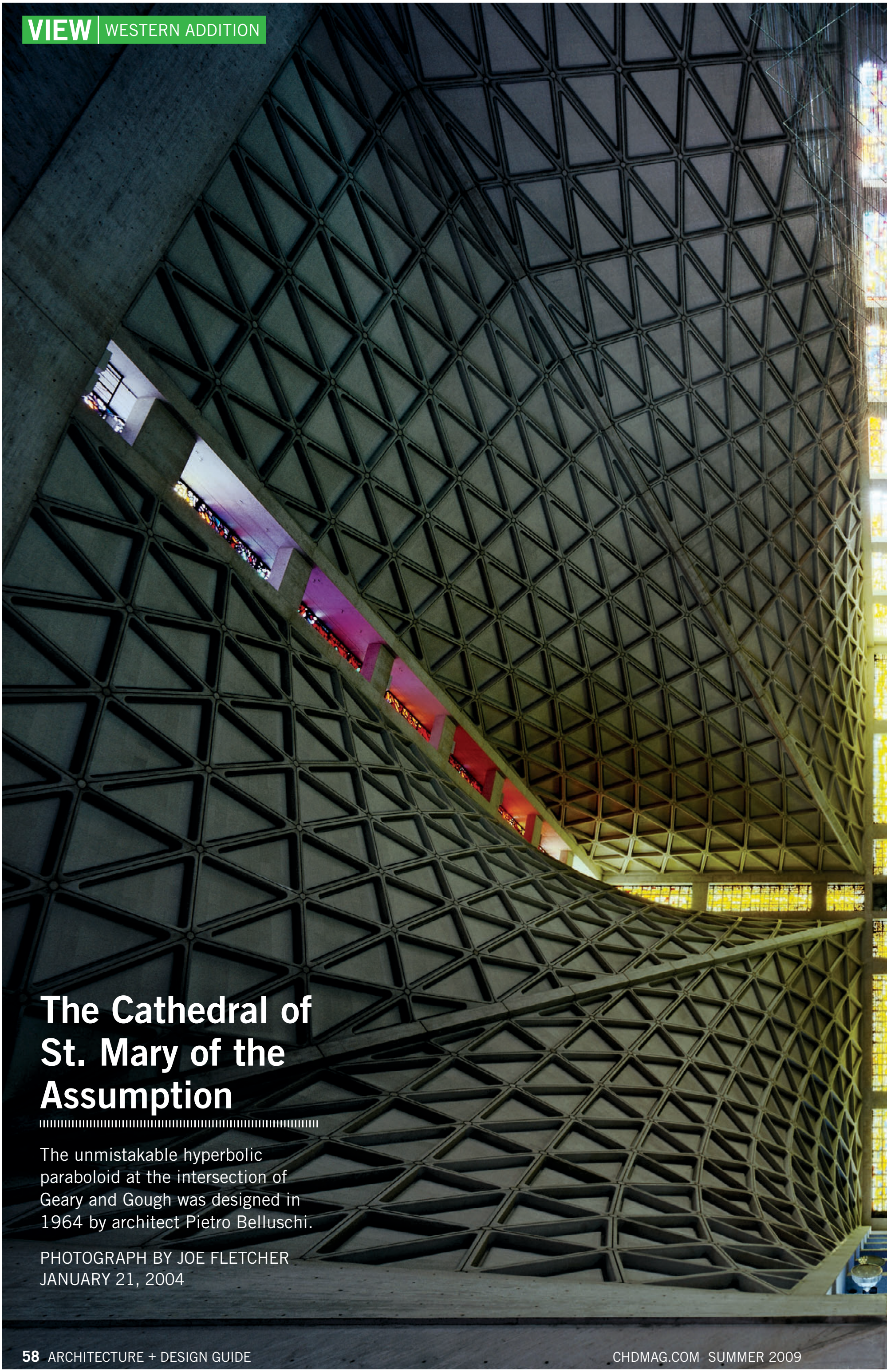
3A GALLERY
101 South Park St. (South Park)
mh-a.com/studio/gallery

Presented in conjunction with the AIA National Convention in San Francisco from April 30 through May 2, "10x10 Cities: Green Facts, Challenges and Futures" addresses sustainability problems facing 10 North American convention cities, including San Francisco. Working on topics including density, availability of green space, transit use, water use, energy consumption and waste generation to carbon footprint, quality of life and climate action plans, California College of the Arts students created datascapes ranking the cities in these areas. Work by students focusing on the city's climate action plan will also be on view at transit shelters around town.

FROM LEFT: DOUGLAS BURNHAM'S CITY PLAN, COURTESY OF SPUR; MATTHEW MILLMAN


EW
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GEOLOGICA / IRIS BOUTIQUE
San Francisco Design District
300 Kansas Street, Suite 102
Telephone 415.255.0680
Fax 415.255.0681
www.eurowest.com
U.S. GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL MEMBER
Product shown: New Ocean Collection, Ocean Black 24"x24"

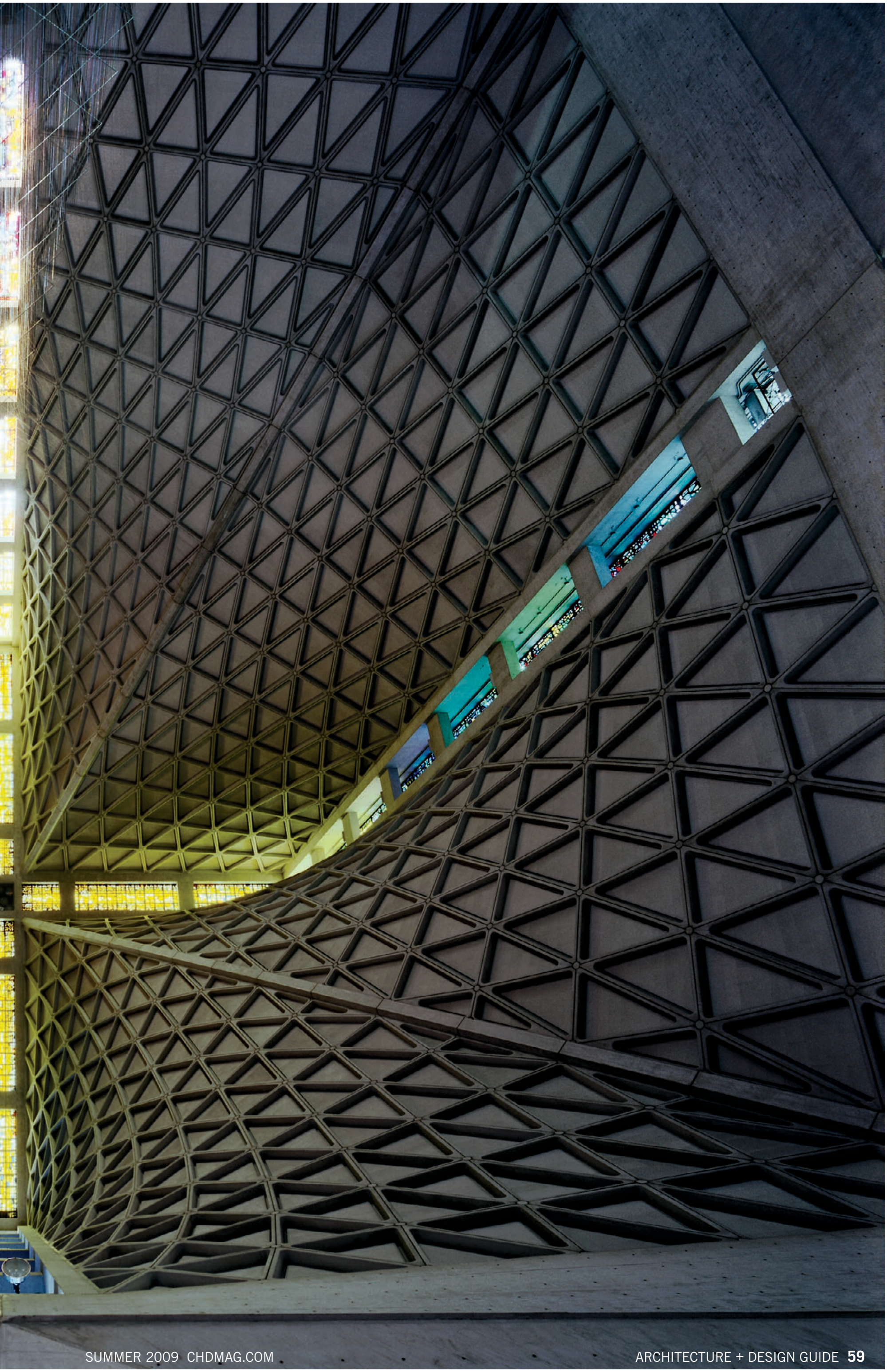

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The Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption

The unmistakable hyperbolic paraboloid at the intersection of Geary and Gough was designed in 1964 by architect Pietro Belluschi.

PHOTOGRAPH BY JOE FLETCHER
JANUARY 21, 2004



SHOP

FINANCIAL DISTRICT ▪ CHINATOWN JACKSON SQUARE

AREA SAN FRANCISCO
540 Jackson St. (Jackson Square)
415.989.2732, areasanfrancisco.com
Tabletop accessories from Arik Levy, Gaia & Gino and Heath Ceramics are just a few of the modern offerings that populate this stylish home-and-garden shop.

ARTEMIDE
855 Montgomery St. (Jackson Square)
415.393.9955, artemide.us
The sculptural lighting from this Italian company, like the 1967 Nesso lamp and of-the-moment contemporary designs, can artfully illuminate any space.

C. MARIANI
499 Jackson St. (Jackson Square)
415.399.6553, cmariantiques.com
This 30-year-old shop carries Italian, French and English antiques from the 18th and 19th centuries. The educated staff can tell you the provenance.

EDEN & EDEN
560 Jackson St. (Financial District)
415.983.0490, edenandeden.com
The oversize Alice-in-Wonderland doorknob of Rachel Eden's funky boutique is the first hint of the range of new and vintage accessories inside.

HEDGE GALLERY
48 Gold St. (Jackson Square)
415.433.2233, hedgegallery.com
Hedge specializes in a highly edited selection of 20th-century and contemporary designs, encompassing furniture, objects and art.

HOUSE OF EUROPEAN DESIGN
431 Jackson St. (Jackson Square)
415.391.7998, design-eu.com
A wide selection of modern lighting and furniture including Mondrian-inspired cabinetry and contemporary sectionals are among the pieces that can be found at this shop. Be sure to check out the sofas and dining room sets from German company Rolf Benz.

KARTELL
501 Pacific Ave. (Jackson Square)
415.839.4025, kartell.it
With a roster of celebrity designers including Philippe Starck and Piero Lissoni and an inventory of recognizable pieces like the Louis Ghost chair, this is the place to go for some of the most innovative furnishings in modern design.

KNOLL
317 Montgomery St. (Financial District)
415.837.2100, knoll.com
With recent designs by architects such as Frank Gehry and Hani Rashid, the office furnishings here are anything but bland. Be sure to check out the new textiles line from fashion house Proenza Schouler.

LEBRETON
412 Jackson St. (Jackson Square)
415.291.8484, lebretongallery.com
Specializing in antiques dating as far back as the 16th century, this shop is filled with rare pieces including a pair of 19th-century gilded Italian mirrors with an acanthus leaf motif.


HEDGE GALLERY

URBAN HARDWOODS
553 Pacific Ave. (Jackson Square)
415.397.9663, urbanhardwoods.com
Fallen trees get a second life in the form of sculptural furniture, thanks to the artisans here who craft the pieces by hand.

VITRA
557 Pacific Ave. (Jackson Square)
415.296.0711, vitra.com
Known for its catalog of iconic midcentury pieces such as Josef Alber's nesting tables and the Eames molded plywood chair, the retail branch also carries a vast collection of pieces for kids, including Verner Panton's pint-size Panton chair and George Nelson's Zoo clocks.

COURTESY OF HEDGE GALLERY


Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone
A boy discovers his magical heritage and gets involved in mystery at Hogwarts School of ...

WILLIAM STOUT ARCHITECTURAL BOOKS
804 Montgomery St. (Jackson Square)
415.391.6757, stoutbooks.com
Filled with 27,000 titles on design and architecture, this bookstore is a popular gathering place for local and visiting designphiles.

UNION SQUARE

ALESSI
424 Sutter St. (Union Square)
415.434.0403, alessi.com
One of only three Alessi shops in the U.S., this is the place where high design takes form in basic appliances including kitchen timers and iconic tea kettles.

BRITEX FABRICS
146 Geary St. (Union Square)
415.392.2910, britexfabrics.com
A San Francisco institution since 1952, this four-story textiles shop is stocked with choice trimmings and bolts of fabric including intricate brocades.


JAK HOME

CB2
34 Ellis St. (Union Square)
415.834.9370, cb2.com
The newer, more colorful offshoot of Crate & Barrel, this furnishings and accessories store is for the design-savvy and budget-conscious shopper.

CRATE & BARREL
55 Stockton St. (Union Square)
415.982.5200, crateandbarrel.com
Newlyweds flock to this home decor shop, which carries furnishings for every room of the house from cookware to throw pillows to platform beds.

DE VERA
29 Maiden Ln. (Union Square)
415.788.0828, deveraobjects.com
This tiny shop, located in San Francisco's famous alley, draws you in with its intricate objects and delicate collections, including a pair of ivory santos hands and nature-inspired ceramics by Ted Muehling.

GUMP'S
135 Post St. (Union Square)
800.766.7628, gumps.com
A standard in luxury goods since 1861, the store carries such designer gems as Barbara Barry's latest tabletop collection, Robert Kuo's copper sculptures and Andrew Fisher's fine art furnishings.

WILLIAMS-SONOMA
340 Post St. (Union Square)
415.362.9450, williams-sonoma.com
The four-story flagship store of this kitchenware company is located right on the perimeter of Union Square, and has everything a cook, kitchen designer or food enthusiast could want.

EMBARCADERO ▪ NORTH BEACH

THE GARDENER
1 Ferry Building, Ste. 26 (Embarcadero)
415.981.8181, thegardener.com
Alta Tingle, a garden designer with a keen eye for design, opened her shop over 25 years ago to offer exceptional garden accessories and rustic furnishings.

HERMAN MILLER
1700 Montgomery St., Ste. 100 (Embarcadero)
415.433.2900, hermanmiller.com
From the Aeron desk chair to the Noguchi coffee table, there is no shortage of iconic furniture to choose from at this legendary manufacturer.

FISHERMAN'S WHARF ▪ RUSSIAN HILL NOB HILL

INTERIOR VISIONS
2206 Polk St. (Russian Hill)
415.771.0656, theinteriorvisions.com
This shop is easily identified by the collection of ceramic hens in the window; inside is an elegant selection of 19th-century French furniture and a variety of crystal chandeliers.

JAK HOME
2423 Polk St. (Russian Hill)
415.839.8264, jak-home.com
Co-owned by Jeff Holt and interior designer Kathleen Navarra, the furniture and accessories shop is arranged as an enviable living room outfitted with Oly furniture, Juliska tableware and antique accessories.

MDVII ANTIQUES
1507 ½ Vallejo St. (Russian Hill)
415.931.4213
Watch your step in this miniature store, stacked floor-to-ceiling and wall-to-wall with dazzling antiques including Venetian glass chandeliers, oil paintings and julep cups filled with mismatched silver flatware.

COURTESY OF JAK HOME

PELOTE FINE LINENS
1706 Stockton St. (North Beach)
415.956.1870, pelotehome.com
This 1,000-square-foot boutique is filled with European table linens, monogrammed handbags and elegant ceramic and-pewter serving pieces by Arte Italica.

SPRING
2162 Polk St. (Russian Hill)
415.673.2065, springhome.com
The light and airy space is the perfect backdrop for eco-friendly home products including organic mattresses from Royal Pedic and plush toys from Sigikids.


TAZI DESIGN

SWALLOWTAIL
2217 Polk St. (Russian Hill)
415.567.1555, swallowtailsf.com
Filled with pieces like vintage Hollywood Regency chairs, Art Deco vases and Louis XVI Christofle table lamps, the inspiring shop makes you feel as if you've been transported to a Paris bazaar.

TENDERLOIN ▪ CIVIC CENTER HAYES VALLEY

FLIGHT 001
525 Hayes St. (Hayes Valley)
415.487.1001, flight001.com
The glossy white shop is all about travel, offering super-slick luggage, compact alarm clocks, eye-popping leather passport holders, buckwheat neck pillows and plenty of travel guides.

INSIDE
149 Gough St. (Hayes Valley)
415.861.5975, insidemodern.com
A Cherner chair and a Modernica sofa are paired with a George Nelson Bubble lamp to create the quintessential modern space at this neighborhood gem.

PEACE INDUSTRY
535 Octavia Blvd. (Hayes Valley)
415.255.9940, peaceindustry.com
Design your own felted-wool rug or pouf by selecting colors and patterns, or pick from the mod designs throughout the shop. All the rugs are handmade in a fair-trade artisan workshop in Iran.

PLANTATION
336 Hayes St. (Hayes Valley)
415.565.0888, plantationhomeaccessories.com
Specializing in custom contemporary furnishings offered in a range of upholstery and finishes, this furniture store also carries a wide selection of Asian and European accessories.

PROPELLER
555 Hayes St. (Hayes Valley)
415.701.7767, propellermodern.com
This is the place to go for independent designs that are available at a range of prices, all with a funky-modern aesthetic. Some of their unique wares include furniture from Moooi and LAX and accessories from Harry Allen and Tobias Wong.

TAZI DESIGN
333 Linden St. (Hayes Valley)
415.503.0013, tazidesigns.com
Handcrafted mosaic tables, ornate tea glasses, vibrant leather poufs and starburst lanterns are a few of the Moroccan imports available at this shop, tucked into Linden Alley.

WORLDWARE
301 Fell St. (Hayes Valley)
415.487.9030, worldwaresf.com
Known for sourcing curvaceous furniture, dramatic lighting and fine accessories, the owners of Worldware have always offered help in customizing their wares and now offer room-by-room design services.

ZONAL
568 Hayes St. (Hayes Valley)
415.255.9307, zonalhome.com
One of the stores that put Hayes Valley on the design-lovers map when it opened in 1990, this shop has a mix of American country and contemporary furniture as well as works by local artists.

SOUTH BEACH ▪ SOMA ▪ MISSION BAY

ALNO
243 Brannan St. (South Beach)
415.541.0754, alnosf.com
This top-of-the-line German kitchen cabinetry showroom carries a variety of styles that range from sleek lacquer to eco-friendly faux-wood paneling.

JEN SISKA

ARCLINEA
91 Third St. (SoMa)
415.543.0771, arclineasanfrancisco.com
An esteemed cabinetry manufacturer since 1925, Arclinea offers the ultimate in modern Italian kitchen design by Antonio Citterio.

ARKITEKTURA IN-SITU
560 Ninth St. (SoMa)
415.565.7200, arksf.com
From Minotti to Varenna and Cor to Driade, a visit to this 14,000-square-foot showroom promises modern European furnishings. Designer pieces are presented in vignettes of idealized living spaces.

B. MORI
450 Ninth St. (SoMa)
415.431.6888, bmori.net
In this showroom, imported silk wallcoverings in a wide selection of lustrous colors and hand-painted fabrics are shown to advantage among European and Asian furnishings and sculptural accessories by local designers.

BOCONCEPT
101 Townsend St. (South Beach)
415.371.0100, boconcept.us
Contemporary furniture store BoConcept carries a collection of hip designs for city living. The staff is happy to help by showing you a 3-D computer rendering of your space complete with new furniture.

CALIFORNIA CARPET & RUGS
1197 Folsom St. (SoMa)
415.487.3636, calfloor.com
With brands like Karastan and Calvin Klein and a range of options in everything from hand-tufted wool-and-silk carpets to eco-friendly hardwood flooring, there's no shortage of choices at this showroom.

LIGNE ROSET
162 King St. (South Beach)
415.777.1030, lignerosetsf.com
This French design house creates ultra-modern pieces by collaborating with top-notch European designers including Tord Boontje and the Bouroullec brothers.

LIMN
290 Townsend St. (SoMa)
415.543.5466, limn.com
Founded by architect Dan Friedlander in 1981, Limn has grown from a retail outlet for design studio furniture to a 40,000-square-foot modern furnishings showroom with a gallery exhibiting works from regional artists and an entire B&B Italia wing.

MSCAPE USA
521 Sixth St. (SoMa)
415.543.1771, mscapeusa.com
This showroom is dedicated to modern European furniture at affordable prices and you can always find a sleek sectional or modular shelving.

ROCHE BOBOIS
701 Eighth St. (SoMa)
415.626.8613, roche-bobois.com
The Paris company, known for its brightly colored, shapely upholstered pieces, features high-end furniture by a veritable who's who of contemporary European design, including Vladimir Kagan.

ROOM & BOARD
685 Seventh St. (SoMa)
415.252.9280, roomandboard.com
At the biggest of the big-box furniture stores, the contemporary classics can all be customized by size and upholstery. Look for pieces by local designers Pablo Pardo and Maria Yee.


LIMN

BEN MAYORGA

SFMOMA MUSEUM STORE
151 Third St. (SoMa)
415.357.4035, sfmoma.org
A great source for gifts, the museum shop is also the place to find art and design books as well as exhibition posters, unique housewares and sculptural jewelry.

MISSION ▪ POTRERO ▪ DOGPATCH DESIGN DISTRICT

ALDEA
3338 17th St. (Mission)
415.865.9807, aldeahome.com
Laid out like a stylish apartment, the store has Indonesian teak wall-hangings in the living room, Zodax tea glasses in the kitchen, and DwellStudio linens for both grown-ups and kids in the bedrooms.

ANTIQUE AND ART EXCHANGE
151 Vermont St., Ste. 4 (Design District)
415.522.3580, antiqueandartexchange.com
The collection of Biedermeier furniture, 15th-century china, 18th-century English silver and Japanese sculptures means that even antiques dealers come here for rare furnishings.

THE APARTMENT
3469 18th St. (Mission)
415.255.1100
This Mission District store offers a mix of vintage furniture and oil portraits that could work equally well for a funky urban pad or a Pacific Heights Edwardian. Don't miss their trove of historic postcards.

ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENTS
573 Valencia St. (Mission)
415.252.8370, ae-home.com
Ultramodern furnishings culled from independent designers around the world are fittingly displayed in this minimalist white storefront, which features concrete floors and huge windows.

BATTERSEA
297 Kansas St. (Design District)
415.553.8500, batterseasf.com
Designer Will Wick reimagined his studio space, which was formerly known as SarloWick, with furnishings and accessories including industrial European antiques and bold color photography by local artist Grant Ernhart.

BLACKMAN CRUZ
2021 17th St. (Design District)
415.934.9228, blackmancruz.com
Part gallery, part vintage furniture shop, it's hard not to drool over the one-of-a-kind pieces in this showroom. Case in point: a circa-1900 Art Nouveau wingback chair and a 1920s wrought-iron chandelier.

CANDACE BARNES ANTIQUES
151 Vermont St., Ste. 7 (Design District)
415.431.1018, candacebarnes.com
An award-winning San Francisco designer and dealer of European antiques, Candace Barnes offers items from her own furniture line amid pedigreed pieces imported from around the world.

COUP D' ETAT
111 Rhode Island St. (Design District)
415.241.9300, coupdetatsf.com
Reclaimed white-oak floors, dramatic lighting and dark painted walls accentuate a mix of worldly art and antiques, including a leather Chippendale wing chair and an Afghan blanket chest.

DZINE
128 Utah St. (Potrero)
415.674.9430, dzinestore.com
The lofty ceilings in this 10,000-square-foot showroom create the perfect setting for the high-end designs from Italian luminaries such as Moroso, Boffi and Porro.

ED HARDY
188 Henry Adams St. (Design District)
415.626.6300, edhardysf.com
With a choice collection of 17th- through 20th-century furnishings and a decorative arts gallery, this antiques shop is one of the best in the city.

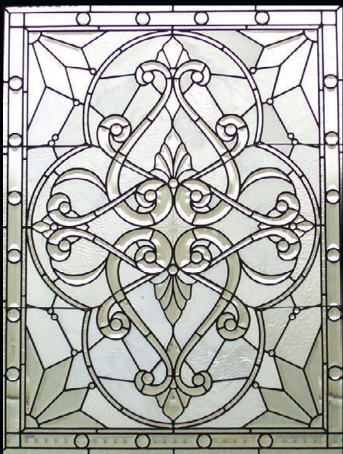

FORGOTTEN SHANGHAI

FORGOTTEN SHANGHAI
245 Kansas St. (Design District)
415.701.7707, forgottenshanghai.com
Come here to find Asian accessories and furniture from the 18th and 19th centuries, vibrantly colored silk brocades and the company's exclusive line of contemporary furniture.

MONUMENT
572 Valencia St. (Mission)
415.861.9800, monument.1stdibs.com
Pairing Hollywood Regency with Alvar Aalto chairs, Monument injects glam into a clean-lined midcentury world. There's a second showroom in Potrero Hill (300 Kansas St., Ste. 103, 415-312-4065).

PAXTON GATE
824 Valencia St. (Mission)
415.824.1872, paxtongate.com
Founded by two landscape designers who were fascinated by the natural sciences, this cabinet of curiosities displays everything from carnivorous plants to taxidermy.

COURTESY OF FORGOTTEN SHANGHAI



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SARLO
295 Kansas St. (Design District)
415.863.1001, gabriellasarlo.com
Stepping out on her own after a successful partnership in SarloWick, Gabriella Sarlo has created Parisian-style vignettes to showcase tableware from Astier de Villatte and textiles from Carolyn Quartermaine.

X21 MODERN
890 Valencia St. (Mission)
415.647.4211, X21modern.com
A truckload of fresh inventory—vintage items such as a Salterini patio table or an original Michael Taylor for Baker dining set—arrives every Saturday.

BERNAL HEIGHTS ▪ GLEN PARK NOE VALLEY

MODERNPAST
677 Chenery St. (Glen Park)
415.333.9007, modernpast.com
Owned by Glen Park's honorary design commissioner, Ric López, this store is a near-museum of vintage furniture from rare Eames classics to Hans Wegner finds.

DUBOCE TRIANGLE ▪ UPPER MARKET DOLORES HEIGHTS ▪ CASTRO TWIN PEAKS ▪ DIAMOND HEIGHTS

BAUERWARE
3886 17th St. (Castro)
415.864.3886, bauerware.com
Award-winning San Francisco kitchen and bath designer Lou Ann Bauer opened her shop ten years ago to focus specifically on cabinetry hardware. The vast collection is from more than 180 designers.

BELL'OCCHIO
10 Brady St. (Upper Market)
415.864.4048, bellocchio.com
This tiny treasure chest of a store contains silky spools of ribbon, antique linens, handmade stationery and beaded gift boxes imported from France.

ECHO FURNITURE
3769 24th St. (Noe Valley)
415.643.3845, web.mac.com/echofurniture
This furniture store carries new lines of softly modern (a.k.a. "transitional") pieces influenced by midcentury classics and updated with today's dimensions.

FLAX ART & DESIGN
1699 Market St. (Upper Market)
415.552.2355, flaxart.com
Flax provides the city's most extensive selection of art supplies and paper—decorated, plain, handmade, textured—as well as journals, calendars, toys, portfolios and so much more.

GIVEN
575 Castro St. (Castro)
415.865.0353, givenonline.com
Formerly a buyer for the museum stores at the de Young and the Legion of Honor, Nick Romero stocks his shop with jewelry and toys as well as home decor and accessories, all with an eye toward design.

KENNETH WINGARD
2319 Market St. (Castro)
415.431.6900, kennethwingard.com
With starburst laser-cut mobiles by Mo-bi-le-o and Wingard's own mod line of lamps and vases, the place resembles a swinging 1970s bachelor pad.


SARLO

RARE DEVICE
1845 Market St. (Upper Market)
415.863.3969, raredevice.net
Promoting local emerging artists and designers, this store and art gallery caters to an offbeat aesthetic with items like retro-style wallpaper by Julia Rothman and Jalea Jalea jewelry from Mexico.

NOPA ▪ ALAMO SQUARE WESTERN ADDITION ▪ JAPAN TOWN

THE OTHER SHOP
327 Divisadero St. (Nopa)
415.621.5424
This vintage furniture and art store was a staple on Divisadero Street long before the neighborhood developed an acronym. Be sure to scour the back room for original 1950s Fiestaware.

HAIGHT ▪ COLE VALLEY ▪ LOWER HAIGHT

EGG AND THE URBAN MERCANTILE
85 Carl St. (Cole Valley)
415.564.2248, urbanmercantile.com
Filled with glass and ceramic vessels, letterpress stationery, chic placemats and colorful pillows, this shop is a sure bet for finding the perfect gift.

COURTESY OF SARLO

SHOP

LOWER PACIFIC HEIGHTS
LAUREL HEIGHTS ▪ PRESIDIO HEIGHTS
PRESIDIO

DESIGN WITHIN REACH
1913 Fillmore St. (Lower Pacific Heights)
415.567.1236, dwr.com
The ubiquitous purveyor of off-the-rack contemporary design and modern classics has two other locations around the city: 455 Jackson St., 415-837-3940; and 2299 Alameda St., 415-734-9172.

KENDALL WILKINSON HOME
3419 Sacramento St. (Presidio)
415.409.1966, thresholdbydesign.com
Newly remodeled, the home furnishings and accessories store formerly known as Threshold now features a vintage-inspired furniture line by proprietor and designer Kendall Wilkinson.


ANTHEM

TWIGA
3333 Sacramento St. (Presidio Heights)
415.292.8020, twigagallery.com
Owner Twiga hails from Tanzania and her gallery is an assemblage of imported tribal art, textiles and artifacts dating as far back as the 12th century.

MARINA ▪ COW HOLLOW
PACIFIC HEIGHTS

ANTHEM
3274 Sacramento St. (Pacific Heights)
415.440.6500, anthemsf.com
Linens from Ann Gish, Haviland china and unique furniture pieces are displayed against a backdrop of white columns and herringbone-patterned limestone floors.

ATYS
2149B Union St. (Cow Hollow)
415.441.9220, atysdesign.com
Tucked into a courtyard off the street, Atys is like a little escape to Italy without the jetlag. Sip espresso as you browse the shop for European and Japanese housewares and gadgets.

BAE
3101 Sacramento St. (Pacific Heights)
415.928.1287, bae-home.com
The home accessories shop specializes in items inspired by nature, such as vivid green bamboo-shaped glass vases and a mirrored nightstand that they nicknamed "Claudette."

BEE MARKET
2266 Union St. (Cow Hollow)
415.292.2910, bee-market.com
Carrying sleek pieces of its own design, this modern furniture boutique is a designer favorite for custom lacquered beds and case goods in a range of colors.

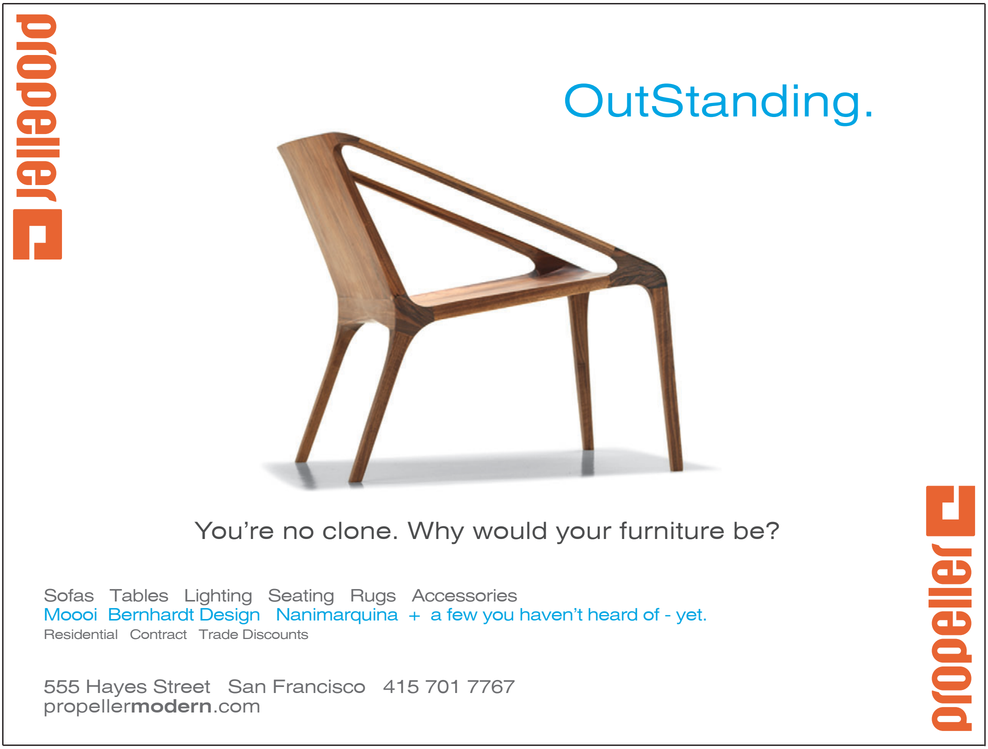
BIRCH
3263A Sacramento St. (Pacific Heights)
415.922.4724, birchsf.com
The black walls of this shoebox-size flower shop accentuate the innovative floral creations and modern window displays designed by owner Torryne Choate. It also carries organically shaped resin vessels and jewelry by local artist Tina Frey.

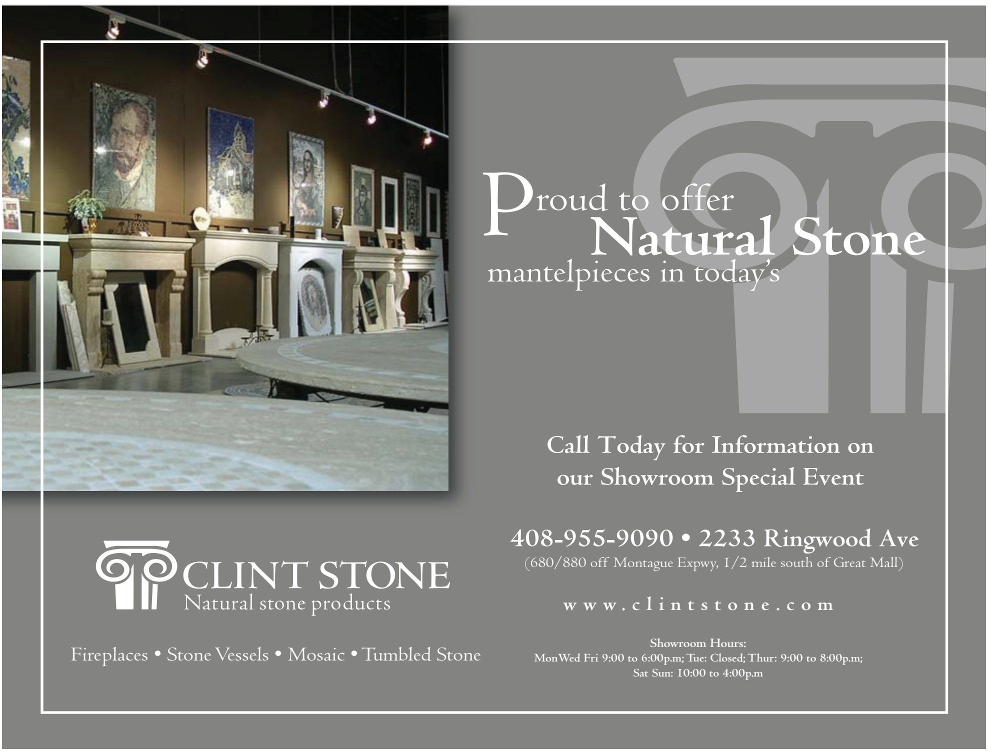
FOUND
1842 Union St. (Cow Hollow)
415.248.6842, foundsanfrancisco.com
Inspired by old-fashioned houseware shops, interior designers Caitlin Moran Lobosco and Tyler Dawson's store showcases collections of furniture and accessories they have acquired by scouring flea markets, auctions and estate sales.

JONATHAN ADLER
2133 Fillmore St. (Pacific Heights)
415.563.9500, jonathanadler.com
Making needlepoint pillows look hip again is no small feat. Thanks to Jonathan Adler, you only need a few key accessories from his retro-inspired furnishings shop to add a pop of color and humor to your home.

MARCH
3075 Sacramento St. (Pacific Heights)
415.931.7433, marchsf.com
Striking overscale pieces, both vintage and new, are a signature of this interiors shop. It carries midcentury antiques, 1940s Iranian rugs and Royal Boch ceramics from Belgium and also offers interior design services.

STEFANIE MICHEJDA


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Sat Sun: 10:00 to 4:00p.m

NEST
2300 Fillmore St. (Pacific Heights)
415.292.6199, nestsf.com
The items in this shop recall the offerings in the crowded bazaars in France, India and Mexico. Browse through the John Robshaw cotton quilts, spider's-web-delicate jewelry and graphic kids' books.

PACIFIC HEIGHTS PLACE
1525 Union St. (Cow Hollow)
415.563.6500, pacificheightsplace.com
This showroom offers a line of Louis XV-style pieces in bright neon colors and bold patterns. Think of it as furniture fit for Sofia Coppola's recent take on Marie Antoinette.

PAST PERFECT
2224 Union St. (Cow Hollow)
415.929.7651
Vintage treasures fill this neighborhood favorite: The antique collective features finds by the Bay Area's design legends. A second, bigger space with larger pieces, opened two years ago at 2246 Lombard St. (415-929-2288).

SUE FISHER KING
3067 Sacramento St. (Pacific Heights)
415.922.7276, suefisherking.com
A San Francisco institution for nearly three decades, this shop features high-end accessories for the home including Murano glass lamps, Mirella Spinella silk velvet pillows and a library of fine design books.

WISTERIA ANTIQUE DECORATIVE PRINTS
3248 Sacramento St. (Pacific Heights)
415.346.3330
The antique and rare prints here include old maps such as an 1856 Bay Area coastal chart and a 1911 Chevalier tourist map of SF.

ZINC DETAILS
2410 California St. (Pacific Heights)
415.776.9002, zincdetails.com
The furniture branch of this store features classics by designers such as Isamu Noguchi and newcomers like Blu Dot. The original storefront around the corner houses modern accessories, gifts and housewares (1905 Fillmore St., 415-776-2100).

INNER RICHMOND ▪ OUTER RICHMOND BAYVIEW

FLEUR*T
15 Clement St. (Inner Richmond)
415.752.1900, fleurtstyle.com
More than just a flower shop, this boutique is filled with such earthly delights as over-the-top bouquets, architectural relics and steel industrial tables. Owner Jonathan Rachman is also an interior designer, whose projects include the Huntington Hotel.

FLORA GRUBB GARDENS
1634 Jerrold Ave. (Bayview)
415.648.2670, floragrubb.com
The 25,000-square-foot nursery is filled with sculptural plants such as palms and agaves, unique varietals like felted-leaf succulents and high-end outdoor furniture. Grab a cup of Ritual Roasters coffee from their cafe on the premises before exploring the gardens.


SUE FISHER KING

PARK LIFE
220 Clement St. (Inner Richmond)
415.386.7275, parklifestore.com
Art books and art objects coexist with actual artworks. It's open late so you can browse through the back-room gallery while waiting for a table at Burma Superstar.

PÉCHÉ MIGNON
147 Clement St. (Inner Richmond)
415.221.6000, pechemignon.com
Channel your inner Francophile with such wares as hand-painted porcelain and jacquard tablecloths imported from France.

PERIOD GEORGE
7 Clement St. (Inner Richmond)
415.752.1900, periodgeorge.net
George isn't the only period at this tableware emporium: You'll also find Victoria, Edward and even Nicolas (Sarkozy), if you factor in the modern and antique Limoges pieces.

JEN SISKA

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Galleries

Japanese architect Fumihiko Maki won the Pritzker Prize in 1993, the same year he designed this aluminum-clad building.

PHOTOGRAPH BY JOE FLETCHER
NOVEMBER 13, 2004





EAT

RESTAURANT DIRECTORY KEY

Prices are based on the average cost of a dinner entrée.

D	Dinner only
NR	No reservations
$	$10 or less
$$	$11–$15
$$$	$16–$25
$$$$	$26 or more

FINANCIAL DISTRICT ▪ CHINATOWN JACKSON SQUARE

BIX

56 Gold St. (Jackson Square) $$$–$$$$
415.433.6300, bixrestaurant.com
From its alleyway entrance to its classic cocktail menu, Bix has old-school swank written all over it. Designed by Michael Guthrie, the space is outfitted with an amber-paneled skylight, silver columns and a swooping staircase. The menu features seasonal comfort dishes such as Kobe steak, spaghetti in a rich lobster sauce and Bix's famous chicken hash.

BOCADILLOS

710 Montgomery St. (Jackson Square) $$
415.982.2622, bocasf.com
At Gerald Hirigoyen's modern tapas spot, diners sit elbow to elbow along the lacquered blond-wood bar along the back of the room, or in Eames-style chairs at the communal table. Housed in the 1880 Canessa Printing Building, the restaurant was designed by local firm Consortium with stone mosaic floors and custom lighting fixtures. Dishes include calamari served with romesco sauce and snapper ceviche served with pears and gently sprinkled with Thai chiles.

CHIAROSCURO

550 Washington St. (Financial District) $$$–$$$$
415.362.6012, chiaroscurosf.com
Chiaroscuro has an industrial-chic air, with concrete benches piled with pillows, lofty ceilings and an open kitchen. Start with a salad or antipasti (such as beef carpaccio with onion marmalade) and finish with an entrée of baked prawns wrapped in pancetta.

GITANE

6 Claude Ln. (Financial District) $$$ D
415.788.6686, gitanerestaurant.com
Oakland-based designer Mr. Important used hand-printed wallpaper, mirrored consoles and tapestries printed with fine art photography to set the stage for Chef Lisa Eyherabide's eclectic menu, influenced by Spain, Portugal, the south of France and North Africa. The chicken tagine is one of the best in town and the b'stilla is just right. The extensive wine list emphasizes the Mediterranean; don't overlook the sherries.

PERBACCO

230 California St. (Financial District) $$$–$$$$
415.955.0663, perbaccosf.com
Local firm CCS Architects designed this 8,000-square-foot Italian eatery, bringing red banquettes and Carrara marble floors into a historic 1912 space. Chef Staffan Terje offers an update of the Caesar salad, while agnolotti pasta filled with roasted rabbit is lifted to heavenly status with a topping of sweet ragu.

TAVERNA AVENTINE

582 Washington St. (Jackson Square) $$
415.981.1500, aventinesf.com
Complete with 100-year-old wood beams and reproduction Edison light bulbs from 1892, Taverna Aventine was designed by Lauren Geremia. The restaurant and bar, located on the site of the old Barbary Coast, is a sleek celebration of the Gold Rush days with vintage San Francisco maps and photos as well as a downstairs parlor with handcrafted liquor lockers.



GITANE

UNION SQUARE

ASIA DE CUBA

495 Geary St. (Union Square) $$$$
415.929.2300, chinagrillmgt.com
Philippe Starck transformed the historic Redwood Room with velvet curtains, leather banquettes and a central shared table with a mirrored top. Try the creative Asian-Latin fusion dishes including tuna tartare with currants and almonds and Cuban spiced chicken served with Thai coconut sticky rice in banana leaves.

CLOCK BAR

335 Powell St. (Union Square) $$-$$$
415.397.9222, michaelmina.net/clockbar
New York's Rockwell Group designed the first-ever cocktail lounge headed by star chef Michael Mina with two columns of glowing amber glass, gold mesh curtains and a profusion of redwood paneling. Sip the Ginger Rogers (gin, ginger syrup, mint, lemon and ginger ale) while snacking on a lobster corn dog.

JEFF DOW

LE COLONIAL

20 Cosmo Pl. (Union Square) $$$$ D
415.931.3600, lecolonialsf.com
This restaurant is like a Hollywood set of 1950s Indochina: wicker chairs and rattan couches are set beneath bowed palm fronds and purring ceiling fans. Menu items include crunchy cha gio vit filled with shredded duck and glass noodles and sea bass steamed in banana leaves with shiitakes and tomatoes.

MICHAEL MINA

335 Powell St. (Union Square) $$$$
415.397.9222, michaelmina.net
Set in the historic lobby of the Westin St. Francis, the restaurant was designed by Barbara Barry in a palette of pale celadon, parchment and toasty brown. Customized prix-fixe, three-course dinners allow diners to select from an innovative menu of dishes such as lobster pot pie and whole fried chicken for two.


MICHAEL MINA

URBAN TAVERN

333 O'Farrell St. (Union Square) $$-$$$
415.923.4400, urbantavernsf.com
The casual setting of this Gensler-designed "gastropub" is inspired by the countryside taverns of Europe and features a rustic communal table carved from local claro walnut. The Mediterranean menu is rustic yet refined and includes dishes such as petrale sole and braised short-rib beef daube.

EMBARCADERO ▪ NORTH BEACH

AMERICANO

8 Mission St. (Embarcadero) $$$–$$$$
415.278.3777, americanorestaurant.com
This restaurant on the ground floor of Chip Conley's sleek Hotel Vitale was designed by Heller Manus Architects with modern interiors by New York's McCartan Design. An open-air patio set with tables and loungers provides 180-degree views of the Bay and the Ferry Building. Chef Paul Arenstam cooks up dishes from the fresh, seasonal produce available at the farmers' market across the street.

BOULEVARD

1 Mission St. (Embarcadero) $$$$
415.543.6084, boulevardrestaurant.com
Located in the historic Audiffred Building, this waterfront restaurant was designed by Pat Kuleto with Art Nouveau accents and sweeping views of the Bay. Seasonal dishes include squash-blossom gnocchi with lobster and sugar snap peas and grilled wild Pacific sea bass with prawns, white beans and chorizo.

CHAYA BRASSERIE

132 Embarcadero (Embarcadero) $$$–$$$$
415.777.8688, thechaya.com
This sleek space, decorated with exposed redwood beams and crystal chandeliers, provides a dazzling view of the Bay Bridge. The sophisticated Franco-Japanese menu offers up seared foie gras alongside the "Chaya Medley," a miniature plate featuring the chef's choice of fresh meats and seafood. There's a first-rate sushi bar for a quick meal on the run, and you can grab an espresso for your bayfront walk.

COI

373 Broadway (North Beach) $$$$ D
415.393.9000, coirestaurant.com
Coi is as serene as its name (pronounced *kwa*, it's French for "tranquility"). The interior is minimalist: a narrow lounge leads to a dining room lined with banquettes in soothing tones of chocolate, tan and cream and hung with works by photographer Catherine Wagner. Guests can order à la carte in the lounge or go for the 11-course tasting menu in the dining room.

LA MAR CEBICHERÍA PERUANA

Pier 1½, (Embarcadero) $$$–$$$$
415.397.8880, lamarcebicheria.com
The 8,000-square-foot space, by CCS Architecture in collaboration with a design team from Peru, has exposed whitewashed beams, windows overlooking a patio and chairs webbed with electric-blue nylon. Headed by Peruvian star chef Gastón Acurio, expect to find plenty of Pisco (practically the national beverage) and ceviche on the menu.

SLANTED DOOR

Ferry Building (Embarcadero) $$$–$$$$
415.861.8032, slanteddoor.com
Designed by Olle Lundberg, the restaurant's big, modern space at the northern end of the Ferry Building has a wall of windows overlooking the Bay and a lounge area with top-notch cocktails. With his Chez Panisse–like take on Vietnamese fare, chef Charles Phan showcases local ingredients in simple dishes such as clams with chiles and Thai basil.

STEFANIE MICHEJDA

FISHERMAN'S WHARF ▪ RUSSIAN HILL NOB HILL

ACQUERELLO
1722 Sacramento St. (Nob Hill) $$$$ D
415.567.5432, acquerello.com
Housed in a Mission-style chapel built in the 1920s, complete with a wood-beamed vaulted ceiling, Acquerello recently underwent a renovation led by designer John Wheatman. Regulars linger for hours, enjoying seasonal Italian cuisine such as house-made pasta coated in a marsala-and-foie-gras cream sauce with black-truffle shavings and crispy Arctic char over sunchokes. The desserts are delectable.

AMÉLIE
1754 Polk St. (Nob Hill) $$
415.292.6916, ameliesf.com
Local firm D.M.G. Design outfitted this tiny wine bar and lounge with cherry red walls, vintage movie theater seats and a red-lacquered oval bar. The signature raviole de Royans—ravioli stuffed with Gruyère and chanterelles—pairs well with a hearty Cabernet, just one of more than 30 reds and 20 white wines by the glass, predominantly from California and Europe.


AMELIE

LE CLUB
1250 Jones St. (Nob Hill) $$$$
415.922.2582, leclubsf.com
Resurrected by Todd Traina and Gina Milano to revive the glory of a 1970s nightspot of the same name, the reservations-only haunt offers starters including local oysters and duck rillettes and entrees such as Maine lobster potpie. The onyx bar, velvet drapes, marble floors and wing chairs covered in crocodile-stamped patent leather lend an air of louche gentility.

TONGA ROOM AND HURRICANE BAR
950 Mason St. (Nob Hill) $$$
415.772.5278, fairmont.com
In the venerable (and newly remodeled by international firm Gensler) tiki lounge inside the Fairmont Hotel, sip a mai tai by the lagoon, nibble on Pacific Rim Asian appetizers and listen to covers played by the band perched on a "floating" straw hut. The redesign ushered in more contemporary and sustainable materials including cocoa wood and bamboo while maintaining the signature 1940s tropical vibe.

STEFANIE MICHEJDA

TENDERNOB ▪ TENDERLOIN CIVIC CENTER ▪ HAYES VALLEY

ABSINTHE
398 Hayes St. (Hayes Valley) $$–$$$
415.551.1590, absinthe.com
This Hayes Valley staple has brought its swanky belle-epoque brasserie style, superb cocktails and Cal-French food to the neighborhood for the past 10 years. The menu changes seasonally, but fish dishes are particularly good here, and you can make a meal of large "share" plates, such as the duck confit hash.

BOURBON & BRANCH
501 Jones St. (Tenderloin)
bourbonandbranch.com
This modern take on the speakeasy is definitely worth making a (required) reservation online. Inside this cocktail lounge, book-laden shelves conceal entrances into hidden rooms and lounges, while talented bartenders mix classic drinks with fresh, premium ingredients. Should you show up on the spur of the moment, the password "books" will always get you into the standing-room Library in back.

CANTEEN
817 Sutter St. (Tendernob) $$$
415.928.8870, sfcanteen.com
With a small kelly-green counter and a handful of snug booths, this former coffee shop has a vintage charm. Chef Dennis Leary (an alum of Rubicon) turns out big dishes from the miniscule open kitchen, including the signature steak tartare served with homemade potato chips, or a blanquette de veau with artichokes.

CORTEZ
550 Geary St. (Tendernob) $$–$$$ D
415.292.6360, cortezrestaurant.com
Michael Brennan's playful yet sophisticated design exudes big-city chic without pretension. Rustic burlap sacks of bread and shot glasses of steaming-hot soup bring a touch of whimsy to the eclectic but delicious eats. The menu has been expanded from a small-plates format to include larger options, such as laurel-scented Japanese snapper and hanger steak.

FARMER BROWN
25 Mason St. (Tenderloin) $$–$$$
415.409.3276, farmerbrownsf.com
At the long copper bar, a diverse crowd sips mint juleps and potent watermelon margaritas. Chef-owner Jay Foster has created a "farm-fresh" twist on Southern cuisine by using sustainable ingredients and ethically raised meats. Entrées such as crispy fried Fulton Valley Farms chicken rely on big, bold flavors.

JARDINIÈRE
300 Grove St. (Civic Center) $$$$ D
415.861.5555, jardiniere.com
A pre-theater crowd gathers here to sup and sip bubbly, framed by hanging velvets, a tasteful sparkling dome and a curving staircase that leads to the second-story dining room. *Iron Chef* winner Traci Des Jardins turns out classics including duck confit with tangerines and Medjool dates and rack of lamb served with lamb crépinette and chèvre potato gratin.

SEBO
517 Hayes St. (Hayes Valley) $$$$ D NR
415.864.2122, sebosf.com
In this intimate sushi restaurant, angular lines echo throughout, from the asymmetrical handcrafted mahogany tables to the back-lit shoji-screen walls. Sit at the bar and you can order the omakase menu (chef's choice), which changes nightly; it can include anything from nigiri sushi with tiny baby eels, tender slices of ankimo (monkfish liver) or edamame with konbu-shiso broth and mushrooms.

SUPPENKÜCHE
525 Laguna St. (Hayes Valley) $$–$$$ NR
415.252.9289, suppenkuche.com
Chefs on their night off and neighborhood locals crowd onto long, family-style plank benches flanking butcher-block tables lit by flickering candlelight, or snag a seat at the bar. A stylish rendition of a German beer hall, Suppenküche offers Wiener schnitzel, house-made sausage and an unparalleled selection of beers. Potato pancakes with applesauce, pickled herring, spaetzle and sauerkraut are all delicious. The Sunday brunch is the perfect start to a lazy day.

SOUTH BEACH ▪ SOMA ▪ MISSION BAY

ANCHOR & HOPE
83 Minna St. (SoMa) $$–$$$
415.501.9100, anchorandhopesf.com
The team behind Town Hall and Salt House converted a former auto-body shop into an East Coast–inspired seafood shack with distressed wood, antique light fixtures and lengths of nautical rope—with an overall effect more chic than kitsch. If you're looking for fried fish, creamy chowder or a lobster roll bursting with chunks of meat, then this is the place.

B RESTAURANT AND BAR
720 Howard St. (SoMa) $–$$
415.495.9800, boxedfoodscompany.com
Housed in a sleek, all-glass building on the upper terrace of the Yerba Buena Gardens, the restaurant designed by architectural firm Medium Plenty features a 25-foot terrazzo-and-concrete bar and stools made of deconstructed wine barrels. For dinner, start with a dozen Marin Miyagi oysters before moving on to horseradish-encrusted salmon with braised fennel.

BACAR
448 Brannan St. (SoMa) $$$–$$$$
415.904.4100, bacarsf.com
This former warehouse (with the exposed brick and timbers to prove it) offers banquettes for serious diners, a long bar for those in search of a casual bite and a subterranean lounge for wine drinkers. Expect classic California fare made with local ingredients, such as wood-oven roasted bone marrow to duck breast with figs, olives and quinoa.

BLUE BOTTLE CAFÉ
66 Mint St. (SoMa) $ NR
415.351.9276, bluebottlecoffee.net
The first cafe from the beloved local micro-roasters looks like a mod science lab devoted to top-shelf coffee. It anchors one corner of the Mint Plaza development and is probably best known for its $20,000 Japanese siphon coffeemaker, the first (and only) of its kind in the United States. A communal table provides seating for the avid coffee-loving crowds.

CHEZ PAPA RESTO
4 Mint Plaza (SoMa) $$$
415.546.4134, chezpapasf.com
A lovely outdoor patio is the best spot downtown for an alfresco lunch or dinner on a (rare) warm SF evening. You'll see many of the ingredients you'd expect to discover in the South of France on the menu, married with good French technique—the resulting dishes are expert versions of such classics as bouillabaisse, lamb daube, steak frites and roasted chicken.


CHEZ PAPA RESTO

COCO500
500 Brannan St. (SoMa) $$$
415.543.2222, coco500.com
When chef Loretta Keller closed her beloved Bizou, she and Cathy Simon of the architectural firm SMWM gave the space a makeover with lots of blond wood and blue hues and then reopened it as Coco500. Balinese teak dining tables and a bar topped with Italian glass serve as the backdrop for Keller's California-Mediterranean cuisine, including the duck-liver terrine, the beef cheek and light-as-air fried green beans.

STEFANIE MICHEJDA

JACK FALSTAFF

598 Second St. (SoMa) $$$
415.836.9239, plumpjack.com
Part of the PlumpJack wine-and-hospitality group, this restaurant features a modern dining room designed by Stanlee Gatti with green suede walls and a zinc-topped bar. Dishes such as Chesapeake Bay soft-shell crab and watermelon salad, Niman Ranch pork three ways and salt-baked whole red snapper are rustic yet refined. A dessert menu tempts with innovative organic options like buttermilk-ginger panna cotta.

LOCAL KITCHEN & WINE MERCHANT

330 First St. (SoMa) $$–$$$
415.777.4200, sf-local.com
Ola Fendert's newest restaurant, a glass-and-stone grotto with an open kitchen and an attached wine shop, is one of the go-to spots in the Rincon Hill section of SoMa. As at Oola, Fendert's first restaurant, the food served here is mostly of the comfort variety—there's a Caesar salad, a rotisserie chicken and pizzas from the wood-burning oven, and you can order sides of Parmesan-truffle fries or roasted root vegetables.

ORSON

508 Fourth St. (SoMa) $$–$$$ D
415.777.1508, orsonsf.com
Housed in a remodeled warehouse, this restaurant from Elizabeth Falkner (Citizen Cake) is an edgy showcase for modern decor and food. The 10,000-square-foot space is outfitted with oil paintings and a bookcase stocked with design tomes and Venini vases. In the kitchen, the focus is on small plates with a touch of whimsy, such as tempura-fried soft-boiled eggs and desserts made from blue potatoes.

PRESS CLUB

20 Yerba Buena Ln. (SoMa) $$
415.777.4200, pressclubsf.com.
Tucked along Yerba Buena Lane, Press Club brings the experience of Wine Country to the heart of the city. Eight small-production wineries offer tastings and retail sales, as well as a small-plates menu inspired by the produce of Wine Country, in a 9,000-square-foot underground space designed by Baldauf Catton von Eckartsberg Architects, the firm that transformed the Ferry Building.

SALT HOUSE

545 Mission St. (SoMa) $$$
415.543.8900, salthousesf.com
Designed by Alamosa Design and Disfigure Design, the 75-seat space mixes luxury with rawness, keeping several original elements of the former printing press while bringing in new pieces such as custom wire chandeliers and contemporary art. A pepper-rubbed steak is perfectly rosy inside, while a roast chicken is jazzed up with preserved lemon.

SOUTH FOOD + WINE BAR

330 Townsend St. (SoMa) $$–$$$
415.974.5599, southfwb.com
Mod-Oz is the overarching theme of this Aussie-inflected space across from the Caltrain depot. The room has elaborate red-and-white tiling and bentwood pendant lights. South has a modern sensibility, with food that's light, healthy and peppered with Asian flavors. The stand-out dessert is the signature licorice parfait with lime syrup.


SOUTH FOOD + WINE BAR

ZARÉ AT FLY TRAP

606 Folsom St. (SoMa) $$–$$$
415.243.0580, zareflytrap.com
Though Hoss Zaré's takeover of this historic restaurant resulted in a complete menu overhaul, the space retains its old charm. Walls are papered with vintage botanical and scientific prints, and the room sports red accents throughout. The now-Mediterranean menu features standouts such as Iranian pickles with pomegranate molasses and sumac, braised lamb shank and slow-cooked eggplant with walnuts and yogurt.

MISSION ▪ POTRERO HILL ▪ DOGPATCH

BAR BAMBINO

2931 16th St. (Mission) $$$
415.701.8466, barbambino.com
Aidlin Darling Design took inspiration from rustic Italian enotecas and 1920s design for this Italian eatery. The white marble bar is accented with dark wood, and three communal tables are designed for casual, convivial dining. A list of bruschetta and panini and cheese and salumi plates gives way to a few hearty pasta dishes and entrées.

BERETTA

1199 Valencia St. (Mission) $-$$ D NR
415.695.1199, berettasf.com
At Beretta (formerly the Last Supper Club), a communal wood table anchors the upstairs dining room and chandeliers dangle overhead. Pizzas are of the thin-crust variety, with blistered edges and restrained toppings, and the antipasti change seasonally. While you wait for a table, have a cocktail prepared by some of the best bartenders in the business.

DANIEL LUNGHI

CONDUIT
280 Valencia St. (Mission) $$$ D
415.552.5200, conduitrestaurant.com
Stanley Saitowitz/Natoma Architects won top honors from the AIA SF in 2008 for their design of this restaurant, which highlights the industrial material that is the eatery's namesake. Executive chef Justin Deering (Boulevard, Fifth Floor) makes everything in house and from scratch, whether it's the delectable caramelized onions, Gruyère and slow-cooked oxtail ravioli or the cravable Captain Crunch ice cream.

DELFINA
3621 18th St. (Mission) $$$ D
415.552.4055, delfinasf.com
Designed by architect Douglas Burnham of Envelope A+D, this wildly popular Italian restaurant features jarrah wood floors and built-in seating, a handful of zinc-topped tables and custom pendants. The food here sets the standard, from the grilled calamari with white beans to the spaghetti with tomatoes and chiles. Check out the tiny pizzeria next door (also designed by Burnham in 2005) for thin-crust pies.


FARINA FOCACCIA & CUCINA ITALIANA

FRANKIE FRANKENY

FARINA FOCACCIA & CUCINA ITALIANA
3560 18th St. (Mission) $$$
415.565.0360, farinafoods.com
It's bold to open a Ligurian restaurant in the shadow of Delfina, but Farina's design helps distinguish it. Architect Brett Terpeluk (who studied under Renzo Piano) chose cherry-red wire chandeliers, frosted glass sconces, brilliant white subway tiles and placed a long communal table in the center of the dining room. The fresh pasta is among the finest in town.

FOREIGN CINEMA
2534 Mission St. (Mission) $$$ D
415.648.7600, foreigncinema.com
Ten years after opening, Foreign Cinema continues to be one of the Mission's most beloved restaurants. Endearing features include an airy dining room and an outdoor courtyard, where films are projected onto a wall. You'll always find oysters on the menu, while other items change daily and might include sautéed rock shrimp with hot peppers and garlic.

MAVERICK
3316 17th St. (Mission) $$$
415.863.3061, sfmaverick.com
Owners Scott Youkilis and Mike Pierce made over these tiny digs, where warm pumpkin walls and an illuminated map of the U.S. provide the backdrop for the New American fare. The menu changes daily, but the "Baltimore crab fluffs"—deep-fried lump blue crab served with a tangy remoulade—are often on offer.

SPORK
1058 Valencia St. (Mission) $-$$ D
415.643.5000, sporksf.com
This KFC-turned-locally-owned-restaurant has a very modern feel: The flat gray walls are accented by bright, oversize posters, with a few relics from the KFC days, such as a kitchen hood—now a light fixture—thrown in for authenticity's sake. The requisite spork accompanies a handful of dishes, including the "pot brownie," a gooey dessert. Most everything on the menu is under $20 and leans toward the simple with a retro wink.

UNIVERSAL CAFE
2814 19th St. (Mission) $$$
415.821.4608, universalcafe.net
Situated in loft central, Universal's sleek details mirror the neighborhood's industrial look. An open kitchen and tall chalkboard cocktail menu cozy up the space, while a wall of tall windows bathes the room in natural light. Rustic meets sophisticated on Leslie Carr-Avalos' inspired, mostly organic menu of New American dishes. Share the crispy flatbread with pesto and fresh-stretched mozzarella, followed by braised pot roast.

WOODWARD'S GARDEN
1700 Mission St. (Mission) $$$ D
415.621.7122, woodwardsgarden.com
Named after a theme park with a zoo and an aquarium that occupied the site in the 19th century, this intimate restaurant is dominated by an open kitchen and features modern touches such as digital art on the walls. Start with one of the salads, such as the beets tossed with walnuts and Maytag blue cheese, or the goat-cheese fritters. End the night right with crème brûlée or the brown-butter strawberry tart.

BERNAL HEIGHTS ▪ GLEN PARK NOE VALLEY

INCANTO
1550 Church St. (Noe Valley) $$$
415.641.4500, incanto.biz
Located on an idyllic corner in Noe Valley, Incanto draws serious food lovers to its warm dining room. The rustic stone bar is the perfect place for sampling a flight from the restaurant's impressive list of obscure Italian wines. The changing menu from Chris Cosentino is a marriage of traditional Italian cuisine and a commitment to sustainability.

LE ZINC
4063 24th St. (Noe Valley) $$–$$$
415.647.9400, lezinc.com
If you're in the mood for an upmarket French meal, this is the place. Named for its authentic zinc-topped bar (as well as the colloquial French term for "cafe"), this bistro has all the charm of Paris. Chef Max Braud hails from France and excels at specialties such as house-made terrine of foie gras and house-smoked salmon, and of course offers up a killer moules frites.

PIQUEO'S
830 Cortland Ave. (Bernal Heights) $$–$$$ D
415.282.8812, piqueos.com
From the same team that brought Mochica to SoMa, this contemporary Peruvian restaurant—with its rusty-red walls, open kitchen with granite bar, and windows overlooking Cortland Avenue—is pushing the neighborhood's culinary limits in a stylish setting. Each dish at Piqueo's masterfully blends disparate elements: The lomo jugo, a classic Peruvian dish, pairs thinly sliced beef in a stir-fry with onions, tomatoes, soy sauce and cilantro, all served with rice and fried potatoes.

DOLORES HEIGHTS ▪ CASTRO TWIN PEAKS

CAV WINE BAR & KITCHEN
1666 Market St. (Upper Market) $$$ D
415.437.1770, cavwinebar.com
Owner Pamela Busch has brought her philosophy of "drinking outside the box" to Upper Market. Just steps from Zuni Café, this urbane wine bar is decked out in deep reds, rich woods and zinc. Start with a charcuterie assortment or a salad of delicate greens and truffled mushrooms, and then move on to seared bluenose bass with quinoa, grapefruit, broccoli and garlic puree.

DESTINO
1815 Market St. (Upper Market) $$–$$$ D
415.552.4451, destinosf.com
Though sultry crimson-and-amber walls, ornate gold-framed mirrors and shadow boxes featuring religious images give Destino the feel of a cathedral, the mood is anything but. Diners come here for modern takes on South American cuisine. Hearts of palm star in a salad studded with golden raisins and fresh mint leaves and ricotta gnocchi are served with Peruvian corn kernels, shiitake mushrooms and a fiery aji-pepper sauce.

ZUNI CAFÉ
1658 Market St. (Upper Market) $$$–$$$$
415.552.2522, zunicafe.com
Zuni may be celebrating its 30-year anniversary, but it still feels fresh. The two-story space with huge windows offers Market Street views and on sunny days, the sidewalk tables are abuzz. The roast chicken—served with bread salad with sweet currants—is legendary, as is the cheeseburger on focaccia with shoestring fries.

NOPA ▪ ALAMO SQUARE WESTERN ADDITION ▪ JAPANTOWN

NOPA
560 Divisadero St. (NoPa) $$$ D
415.864.8643, nopasf.com
The lofty space, with exposed beams and trusses, polished concrete floors and large plate-glass windows, is infused with personality thanks to custom SF-inspired murals by local artist Brian Barneclo. The food is simple, local and organic, with mains such as grilled pork chop and herbed rotisserie chicken.

O IZAKAYA LOUNGE
1625 Post St. (Japantown) $$–$$$
415.614.5431, oloungesf.com
Designer Michael Guthrie decked out this restaurant-cum-lounge in pop-arty Japanese baseball memorabilia. The menu offers some of the most successful and inventive Japanese-influenced food in the city. Take a seat at one of the two communal tables, made entirely of cork, and order bar bites such as ultra-crisp chicken wings in ginger sauce paired with a glass of cold sake.


YOSHI'S

YOSHI'S
1330 Fillmore St. (Western Addition) $$$ D
415.655.5600, yoshis.com/sf
Adjacent to the jazz club of the same name (and a sibling of the Oakland Yoshi's), this vast restaurant, seating 350, has soaring ceilings, a second-story lounge and an elegant private dining room, all designed by Berkeley's Morimoto, Matano & Kang. Refined Japanese is the order of the day at Yoshi's, where chef Shotaro Kamio offers a veritable treasure trove of unusual ingredients.

HAIGHT ▪ COLE VALLEY ▪ LOWER HAIGHT

THE ALEMBIC
1725 Haight St. (Haight) $$ NR
415.666.0822, alembicbar.com
Despite its diminutive size, the Alembic, with its mustard-yellow walls and vintage chandeliers, manages to be both an exceptional bar and a great place to eat. The Kobe beef-tongue sliders and crispy pork belly with scallops are bar food at its finest. Alembic's artisan-distilled spirits and Magnolia Brewery beers will get the color back in your cheeks in no time.

FRANKIE FRANKENY

RNM
598 Haight St. (Lower Haight) $$$ D
415.551.7900, rnmrestaurant.com
When RNM moved in, the famously funky Lower Haight became a serious dining destination. In classic New York City style, the snug dining room and bar looks up to a mezzanine with additional dinner seating. Dig into small but hearty plates of short ribs, risotto and osso buco mini-burgers and finish the meal with the gooey brownie sundae.

LOWER PACIFIC HEIGHTS
LAUREL HEIGHTS ▪ PRESIDIO HEIGHTS
PRESIDIO

SPQR
1911 Fillmore St. (Pacific Heights) $$–$$$ NR
415.771.7779, spqrsf.com
The team that runs the Marina's A16 is behind this shoebox-sized space on Fillmore, an approximation of a Roman osteria. The menu is organized into four categories: antipasti, salumi, pasta and antipasti grande. The dishes tend toward the rustic, from pork spareribs with rosemary and fennel to bay scallops with roasted cauliflower and olives.


SPRUCE

SPRUCE
3640 Sacramento St. (Presidio Heights) $$–$$$$
415.931.5100, sprucesf.com
Designer Stephen Brady of Williams-Sonoma Home transformed this former 1930s garage with chocolate mohair upholstered walls and saddle-leather chairs. The French-inspired menu includes bar bites, such as boudin blanc with sauerkraut and such entrées as butter-cooked lobster with pillowy gnocchi.

MARINA ▪ COW HOLLOW
PACIFIC HEIGHTS

GREENS
Fort Mason Center, Bldg. A (Marina) $$$
415.771.6222, greensrestaurant.com
A three-ton curving redwood table by famed California woodworker J. B. Blunk dominates the airy dining room (with a stunning view of the Golden Gate Bridge) of this upmarket vegetarian restaurant. The soup du jour or the black-bean chili is the perfect precursor to such mains as tofu brochettes and a polenta gratin with roasted peppers, tomatoes and Manchego cheese.

LAÏOLA
2031 Chestnut St. (Marina) $$–$$$ D
415.346.5641, laiola.com
This Cal-Spanish restaurant has a copper-clad bar and a menu of approachable, shareable plates. The 50-seat space—owned and designed by Joe Hargrave—has burnt sienna–hued walls and vintage Art Deco lamps. From the first bite of patatas bravas to the last swig of Albariño, it celebrates the rich food culture of Spain.

TERZO
3011 Steiner St. (Cow Hollow) $$$ D
415.441.3200, terzosf.com
This small space designed by CCS Architecture exudes warmth—hanging Edison bulbs and a fireplace—as well as sophistication, with a zinc bar and a wall of wine bottles. Though Terzo is best known for its small plates, such as feta and squash flatbread, black truffle bruschetta and roasted beets with thick yogurt and spices, the larger plates are equally laudable.

INNER RICHMOND ▪ OUTER RICHMOND
GOLDEN GATE PARK

AZIZA
5800 Geary Blvd. (Outer Richmond) $$$–$$$$ D
415.752.2222, aziza-sf.com
All types flock here for Moroccan food and creative drinks. With Moorish arches and booths for big groups, the front dining room is the life of the party. Talented chef Mourad Lahlou's cooking satisfies the crowds with starters including chicken b'stilla and hearty entrées such as lamb shank with a honey-kumquat sauce.

B STAR
127 Clement St. (Inner Richmond) $
415.933.9900, bstarbar.com
The dining room of this Burma Superstar spin-off is airy and bright, with antiqued hardwood floors and a charming back patio. The menu has a broad pan-Asian appeal. "Fish-and-chips" is a bowl of fried whole smelts, accompanied by malt vinegar and curry aïoli. Kau soi, nubby noodles coated in a sauce of coconut milk and ground chicken, is fancied-up street food at its finest.

SUTRO'S AT THE CLIFF HOUSE
1090 Point Lobos (Outer Richmond) $$$–$$$$
415.386.3330, cliffhouse.com
Housed in the historic Cliff House at the northern end of Ocean Beach, high above the Pacific and surrounded by floor-to-ceiling windows, the dining room offers a breathtaking view. Don't come just for the visuals—the organic, seasonal ingredients and updated seafood classics inspired by Mediterranean, Asian and Latin American cuisines dominate the menu.

FRANKIE FRANKENY





UCSF Mission Bay Community Center

Mexican architect Ricardo Legorreta chose to accent San Francisco's signature orange hue with his own favorite color, magenta, for his contribution to UCSF's new Mission Bay campus.

PHOTOGRAPH BY JOE FLETCHER
DECEMBER 15, 2004

STAY

HOTEL DIRECTORY KEY

Prices are based on the average cost of a double room, excluding the 14 percent city tax for hotels with parking.

F	On-site fitness center
R	Number of rooms and suites
RS	Room service
W	Free WiFi in rooms
$	$99–$149
$$	$150–$199
$$$	$200–$269
$$$$	$270 or more

FINANCIAL DISTRICT ▪ CHINATOWN JACKSON SQUARE

GALLERIA PARK HOTEL

191 Sutter St. (Financial District)
415.781.3060, galleriapark.com
$$ F 177R RS W
This Art Deco–inspired hotel has been around since 1911 but was recently overhauled by local design team Marni Leis and Oren Bronstein. The 177 rooms feature upholstered leather headboards and crystal table lamps. But the standout is the lobby, where an original fireplace has been updated with silver lacquer and the walls are covered with vintage artwork from San Francisco's Lost Art Salon.

ORCHARD GARDEN HOTEL

466 Bush St. (Financial District)
415.399.9807, theorchardgardenhotel.com
$$ F 86R RS W
Sister property to the Orchard Hotel, this LEED-certified hotel was designed by Marin-based Architecture International. The 86 rooms are outfitted with sustainable furnishings, and the 600-square-foot rooftop has been transformed into an idyllic garden. Specially programmed key cards automatically switch off the lights when guests leave the room.

UNION SQUARE

CLIFT HOTEL

495 Geary St. (Union Square)
415.775.4700, clifthotel.com
$$$$ F 366R RS W
In 2000, when locals heard that Philippe Starck was redesigning the historic 1913 Clift Hotel, many feared his signature ultramodern style would trump the building's Italian Renaissance roots. Thankfully, the result was a stylish middle ground: The lobby mixes gray plaster walls, limestone floors and a hand-carved check-in desk with whimsical accessories such as an 18-foot-high bronze fireplace. Sip a cocktail in the hotel's famous wood-paneled Redwood Room.

HOTEL FRANK

386 Geary St. (Union Square)
415.986.2000, hotelfranksf.com
$$–$$$ 153R RS W
Formerly the Maxwell, Hotel Frank has just reopened following a $10 million transformation that ushered in a new contemporary look from Los Angeles designer Thomas Schoos. Graphic black-and-white houndstooth accents set the tone in the lobby, while guest rooms feature teal crocodile-embossed leather headboards and handblown bubble pendant lamps.

HOTEL UNION SQUARE

114 Powell St. (Union Square)
415.397.3000, hotelunionsquare.com
$$ 131R W
As part of a $5 million renovation completed last summer, design consultant Riley Johndonnell updated this historic hotel with white tufted headboards and capsule-shaped mirrors while maintaining the 1913 building's charm by uncovering the brick walls and restoring the original staircases and murals.


HOTEL UNION SQUARE

WESTIN ST. FRANCIS

335 Powell St. (Union Square)
415.397.7000, westinstfrancis.com
$$$–$$$$ F 1,195R RS
Starting with the famous grandfather clock in its lobby, the Westin St. Francis is full of San Francisco history. Half of the rooms are in the 1904 building located directly on Union Square, while the others are in a more modern 1970s addition to the rear. Be sure to check out Michael Mina's new Clock Bar, off the front lobby across from his eponymous restaurant.

EMBARCADERO ▪ NORTH BEACH

HOTEL VITALE

8 Mission St. (Embarcadero)
415.278.3700, hotelvitale.com
$$$ F 200R RS W
Designed by Heller Manus Architects and McCartan Design, this waterfront hotel is decorated in soothing earth tones and natural woods. A small spa at penthouse level is equipped with two outdoor soaking tubs, and free yoga classes are offered each morning.

RIEN VAN RIJTHOVEN









FISHERMAN'S WHARF ▪ RUSSIAN HILL NOB HILL

FAIRMONT SAN FRANCISCO
950 Mason St. (Nob Hill)
415.772.5000, fairmont.com
$$$–$$$$ F 591R RS
This sprawling stone structure is marked by the flags of the 42 countries that signed the original UN Charter, which was drafted in the Fairmont's Garden Room. Under construction during the 1906 earthquake, the hotel's ornate lobby has welcomed a multitude of socialites and diplomats since it opened a century ago.

INTERCONTINENTAL MARK HOPKINS
1 Nob Hill (Nob Hill)
415.392.3434, markhopkins.net
$$ F 380R RS
Built in 1926, the Mark Hopkins rises majestically atop Nob Hill, affording some of the best views in the city. Renovations in 2001 restored the hotel's place as one of the city's most luxurious locales. The ballroom, called the Room of the Dons, is a must-see, with murals of early California dating from 1926.


ST. REGIS HOTEL

TENDERNOB ▪ TENDERLOIN CIVIC CENTER ▪ HAYES VALLEY

HOTEL VERTIGO
940 Sutter St. (Tendernob)
415.885.6800, hotelvertigosf.com
$$-$$$ 103R
Los Angeles designer Thomas Schoos outfitted this boutique hotel in bright white, striking orange and aubergine while incorporating subtle references to Hitchcock's masterpiece, such as contemporary art that plays off the 'swirl' imagery in the film.

PHOENIX HOTEL
601 Eddy St. (Tenderloin)
415.776.1380, thephoenixhotel.com
$ 44R W
This brightly painted retro motor lodge in a not-so-great part of town has housed both Nirvana and Norah Jones, and the tiki torch–lit courtyard—centered around a heated pool—translates to serious party potential. Drop in to the Bambuddha Lounge, the hotel's lounge and restaurant, for some potential rock-star spotting or to hang out poolside.

SOUTH BEACH ▪ SOMA ▪ MISSION BAY

GOOD HOTEL
112 Seventh St. (SoMa)
415.621.7001, somahotels.com
$ 117R RS W
This hip budget hotel has integrated good design with good deeds. Eco-friendly furnishings, including beds by local firm Ohio Design, deck out the spacious ultra-modern rooms. And kiosks in the lobby connect guests with volunteer opportunities in the city and beyond.

INTERCONTINENTAL SAN FRANCISCO
888 Howard St. (SoMa)
888.811.4273, intercontinentalsanfrancisco.com
$$–$$$ F 550R RS W
Designed with the high-tech industry in mind, this sleek business hotel boasts high-speed Internet, flat-screen TVs and iHome clock radios in each room. The 550 guest rooms were designed by local firm BraytonHughes Design Studios in energizing hues of gold and sage.

PALACE HOTEL
2 New Montgomery St. (SoMa)
415.512.1111, sfpalace.com
$$$–$$$$ F 543R RS W
Built in 1875, San Francisco's oldest hotel is steeped in history. Past guests include presidents and royalty, and the Garden Court restaurant has hosted generations of tea drinkers beneath its stained-glass dome. The pool is the perfect place to watch the clouds through skylights.

ST. REGIS HOTEL
125 Third St. (SoMa)
415.284.4000, stregis.com
$$$$ F 260R RS
Skidmore, Owings & Merrill designed the glass-topped, 42-story tower containing the five-star hotel and private residences, while renowned hospitality-design firm Yabu Pushelberg handled the interiors. True to the St. Regis brand, design elements are striking yet classic, such as zebrano wood–clad walls and Neo-Baroque murals.

NOPA ▪ ALAMO SQUARE WESTERN ADDITION ▪ JAPANTOWN

BEST WESTERN HOTEL TOMO
1800 Sutter St. (Japantown)
415.921.4000, hoteltomo.com
$ F 125R W
Japanese murals and beanbag chairs set the mood at this Japantown Best Western hotel, transformed last summer by Charles De Lisle of De Lisle, Philpotts & Staub Interiors and Joie de Vivre. Now a quirky urban retreat, the hotel mingles contemporary classics against a backdrop of Japanese pop culture.

STEFANIE MICHEJDA

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DESIGNER RESOURCE GUIDE

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330 Second St., Ste. 203
Oakland, CA
510.465.2746
alorisaglassworks.com

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Redwood City, CA
650.216.9600
baywestbuilders.com

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belgard.biz

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peacockcabinetry.com

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cifialusa.com

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800.971.7900
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1160 Industrial Rd., Ste. 5
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SF I.Q.

Test your knowledge of San Francisco

1 What is the tallest building in San Francisco?

2 What is the most common style of home in the city?

3 Who passed on designing Golden Gate Park?

4 What was the area now called Crissy Field originally used for?



5 Why does Market Street run diagonally across the city, instead of directly north and south?



6 **San Francisco is the second-densest city in the U.S. What is the first?**

7 **What is the official name of the color of the Golden Gate Bridge, which has more recently been used for the logo and architectural details at the California Academy of Sciences?**



8 **What is the standard lot size of a San Francisco row house?**

9 **On the eastern side of Dolores Street, you see mostly Edwardian apartment buildings; on the western side, Victorian houses. Why is this?**

10 What prominent San Francisco landmark was modeled after the Giralda Tower in Seville, Spain?



11 Where is the only Frank Lloyd Wright building in the city?

12 **Which SF Art Institute alum spent 10 years as *Rolling Stone's* chief photographer?**



13 **Which politician campaigning for national office said, "I love this city. If I'm elected, I'll move the White House to San Francisco."**

14 Architect Richard Neutra is known for his work in Southern California, but where can you see his work in San Francisco?

15 **San Francisco is known for its steep streets. Which two blocks are steepest? Give the two cross streets that frame each block.**

ANSWERS: 1. The Transamerica Pyramid, at 853 feet. **2.** Edwardian. **3.** Frederick Law Olmsted, the designer of New York's Central Park, advised against the park—he thought the site was too arid; thankfully, William Hammond Hall went ahead with the project. **4.** Once a salt marsh, the land was developed as an auto racetrack for the 1915 Panama-Pacific International Exposition. **5.** City designer Jasper O'Farrell wanted the thoroughfare to run between two existing grids. **6.** New York City. **7.** International orange. **8.** 25 feet wide by 100 feet long. **9.** The 1906 fire was extinguished before it could cross the street. **10.** The Ferry Building tower. **11.** Circle Gallery, at 140 Maiden Lane (see "The Top 25 Buildings in San Francisco," p. 24). **12.** Annie Leibovitz. **13.** Robert Kennedy. **14.** There are three Neutra houses: 90 Woodland Ave. in Cole Valley, 2058 Jefferson St. in the Marina and 66 Calhoun Terrace on Telegraph Hill. **15.** Filbert St. between Leavenworth and Hyde, and 22nd St. between Church and Vicksburg (both are 31.5 percent grades).

FROM TOP: THIERRY MEURGUES; IZABELA HABUR; TIM GRIFFITH; KAREN NGUYEN; FRESHWATER2006/FLICKR.COM

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